FBIS DAILY REPORT

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ARGENTINE, CHILEAN PRESIDENTS REITERATE DESIRE FOR PEACE

PY021422Y Paris AFP in Spanish 1234 GMT 2 Jan 79 PY

[Text] Montevideo, 2 Jan (AFP)--The presidents of Argentina and Chile, Gen Jorge Videla and Augusto Pinochet, have reiterated to their Uruguayan counterpart, Aparicio Mendez, their desire to achieve a peaceful solution to their conflict over the Beagle Channel. The two presidents expressed this desire in their respective replies to a message sent to them by President Mendez, who conveyed the desire of the people and Government of Uruguay that the conflict in the southern region of the continent may have a prompt, happy solution. The messages are dated 31 December and their texts were released here today.

Mendez said in his message that he felt strongly in solidarity with the efforts which are being made toward a peaceful solution, and conveyed his hope that these efforts may be successful. He also expressed his strong conviction that in this way, the highest values of fraternal coexistence among the peoples of America will be markedly strengthened.

In his reply, General Videla stated: The government and people of Argentina, aware that sincere dialog is the adequate means to reconcile ideas and to reach just, durable solutions with the Republic of Chile, are confident in achieving these solutions for the well-being of their peoples, having in this effort the invaluable help of the holy father and of his envoy, Cardinal Samore.

In turn, General Pinochet stated that Chile is striving for stable, permanent peace which can only be based on unrestricted respect for international law, and it advocates the search for peaceful means of solving international conflicts such as the one it now has with the Argentine Republic over the demarcation of the maritime areas in the southern region.

ANDEAN PRESIDENTS TO MEET IN BOGOTA IN MAY

PA030328Y Paris AFP in Spanish 2120 GMT 2 Jan 79 PA

[Text] Bogota, 2 Jan (AFP)--The presidents of the Andean Pact--Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru and Venezuela--will meet next May in Cartagena, Colombia, to analyze the subregional organization's situation, semiofficial sources said today. The meeting was called by Colombian President Julio Cesar Turbay, who began his term on 7 August.

Chile was part of the group until 1976, when it withdrew because of disagreements about a clause dealing with foreign capital and for political reasons.

The organization is also known as the Cartagena agreement because it was organized in that city in 1969.

PAPAL ENVOY MEETS WITH VIDELA, DEPARTS FOR SANTIAGO

Samore Meets With Videla

PY021325Y Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1312 GMT 2 Jan 79 PY

[Text] Buenos Aires, 2 Jan (NA)--Papal envoy Cardinal Antonio Samore left government house at 1003 after having met for almost an hour with President Jorge Videla.

Samore, who left in an automobile with papal nuncio Pio Laghi, declined to make any statement.

Communique on Videla-Samore Meeting

PY021602Y Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1550 GMT 2 Jan 79 PY

[Text] Buenos Aires, 2 Jan (NA)--The Public Information Secretariat has released the following communique:

"The Public Information Secretariat reports that his excellency the president of the nation, Lt Gen Jorge Rafael Videla, met today with his eminence, Cardinal Antonio Samore, at 0900 at government house. The meeting ended at 1000.

"The meeting allowed the papal envoy to obtain further information on the Argentine position in order to achieve the desired rapprochement between the two nations.

"His eminence, Cardinal Antonio Samore, will travel to Santiago, Chile, at 1500 today."

Signed: Lt Col Mario Candido Diaz, general press director of the Presidency of the nation

Samore Leaves for Santiago

PY021819Y Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1806 GMT 2 Jan 79 PY

[Text] Buenos Aires, 2 Jan (NA)--The papal envoy, Cardinal Antonio Samore, left the military section of Aeroparque airport on a flight to Santiago, Chile, shortly after 1500. The papal nuncio, Msgr Pio Laghi, other members of the papal legation in Argentina, and Foreign Ministry officials bade him farewell at the airport. Chilean Ambassador Sergio Onofre Jarpa was also at the airport.

Samore To Deliver Argentine Document

PY021842Y Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1514 GMT 2 Jan 79 PY

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 2 Jan (NA)--The papal envoy, Cardinal Antonio Samore, stated today that he is handcarrying to Chile a document stating the Argentine position on the border conflict, but made it clear that it is not a proposal.

Queried by newsmen shortly before boarding the presidential plane which will take him to Santiago, Chile, he said that the possibility for the two countries to resume dialog "is not far away," and added that an eventual solution to the conflict was not impossible.

PEACE MASS LAUDS PAPAL MISSION, CONCLUDES WITH MARCH

PY011833Y Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1656 GMT 1 Jan 79 PY

[Text] Buenos Aires, 1 Jan (NA)--A large group of people who had attended the peace mass in the cathedral formed a column after it ended and marched, carrying Argentine and Chilean flags, along Avenida de Mayo through Congress Square and along Avenida Callao toward the north. By 1330 they had reached the neighborhood of the nunciature and it was not known where they intended to finish the march.

After the religious service the demonstrators, most of whom were youths and women, cheered the pope, the Catholic Church and Cardinal Antonio Samore, the papal envoy who is trying to bring about an Argentine-Chilean rapprochement in the border dispute in the south.

They then sang the national anthem, read the Lord's Prayer and started their march along Avenida de Mayo.

In a perfectly peaceful manner and singing pacifist slogans, the demonstrators went along the streets, applauded by the people who saw them.

Three police patrol cars from the police district through which the group was marching accompanied them without interfering at any time.

POLICE BAR DEMONSTRATION BY RELATIVES OF MISSING PERSONS

PY292213Y Paris AFP in Spanish 1934 GMT 29 Dec 78 PY

[Text] Buenos Aires, 29 Dec (AFP)--This afternoon the police prevented a demonstration staged by relatives of missing persons scheduled for 1530 (1830 GMT) at Plaza de Mayo in front of the government house. At 1500 (1800 GMT), security forces blocked access to and loitering about the entire square to prevent demonstrators from gathering.

Mothers, brothers and fiancees of persons who have been missing for some time had decided to meet at the place to await the answer of their petitions regarding the fate of their relatives. The date made yesterday by an official of the government house, later identified as Dr Arizteguy, could not take place because access to the building was blocked by uniformed police agents.

Meanwhile, approximately 300 relatives gathered at the entrance to the metropolitan cathedral--located less than 200 meters away from the government house--under the watchful eyes of police personnel, and unrolled a banner which read: "We want our missing children and justice."

The number of missing persons in Argentina since the takeover by President Jorge Videla's military regime in 1976 varies significantly according to sources. The government says that there are less than 1,000, but prohuman rights organizations which operate here indicate that there are more than 4,500 confirmed cases.

CASTRO MADERO REVIEWS CNEA'S ACTIVITIES, PLANS

PY282332Y Buenos Aires LA NACION in Spanish 28 Dec 78 p 7 PY

[Text] The total cost of the four nuclear plants in operation or under construction in the country reaches about $4.2 billion, according to a statement made by Rear Adm Carlos Castro Madero, the president of the National Atomic Energy Commission [CNEA], during a press conference.

He stated that Argentina is the only country in Latin America with a nuclear powerplant in operation. During a press conference held at the organization's headquarters, he explained to newsmen some aspects of the work carried out this year, and also mentioned some projections for the future.

The CNEA's main goal during this period was the installation and control of the nuclear powerplants, with an increasing participation of domestic science, engineering, technology and industry.

With regard to the program for supplying the powerplants, he said the CNEA continued concentrating its efforts on mastering the entire fuel cycle and heavy water production methods.

The CNEA carried out exploratory activities with regard to the fuel cycle. The result was an increase of 1,581 tons in the "yellow cake" reserve, which represents a 6.2-percent increase over the total reserves of 27,081 tons.

With regard to the radioisotope and radiation program, the objective of which is the production of radioisotopes and sources of radiation required by the market and the promotion of their use, the supply of radioactive material increased and their uses were developed in the fields of technology, science, industry and medicine. In addition, the CNEA maintained a permanent service for the radiosterilization of biomedical and pharmaceutical material in its industrial plant.

The elaboration of radioactive material reached 530 Ci, including the composites produced, elaborated and broken down by the CNEA. This represents an increase of 28 percent over the previous period. The CNEA exploited 72 Ci. This represents an increase of 110 percent. The CNEA is also working on the installation of a 20-MV electrostatic accelerator bought last year, which is in an advanced stage of assembly in the United States.

In the field of solar energy, the CNEA is developing systems to convert it into thermal energy which could be used for refrigeration, industrial purposes and to generate electricity. Two prototypes of radiation concentrators are now being built.

The patent for a new concentrator, developed by the CNEA, is also being sought.

Admiral Castro Madero concluded: "The CNEA has responded to the nation's efforts to become self-sufficient. At the same time, it is preparing to assume the great responsibilities which await us in the very near future."

Among the priority goals of the CNEA, he mentioned the stimulation and development of the Argentine nuclear industry and engineering, as well as expanding our country's activities in the field and enhancing Argentina's prestige abroad.

CNEA President Comments Further

PY2817444Y Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1230 GMT 28 Dec 78 PY

[Text] Buenos Aires, 28 Dec (NA)--Rear Adm Carlos Castro Madero, president of the National Atomic Energy Commission [CNEA], has reported that the plans submitted by CNEA and currently under study by the executive branch will call on the country for an investment of approximately $4.2 billion over the next 20 years. He remarked that these plans include the construction of four nuclear plants and the necessary installations for the supply of heavy water, among other important projects.

Castro Madero, who provided the information at the request of NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS, indicated that in fact, at the end of this period the effective investment will not exceed $2 billion because these plants and installations, when they begin to operate, will generate a return on capital and income which will reduce the original cost at an average not to exceed $100 million a year.

Before releasing this information, Castro Madero participated in a press conference in which he thanked the media for their support and made an analysis of the work carried out by CNEA in 1978 in relation to the objectives set down last year by the government.

He then emphasized that the projects which are being undertaken tend to "insure the country's maximum autonomy regarding nuclear matters, including the cycling of fuel and manufacture of heavy water," and also to "improve the availability to qualified human resources, stimulate and develop national industry and nuclear engineering, expand Argentina's scope and increase its prestige abroad."

Finally Castro Madero remarked that in 197[illegible] CNEA obtained a 5.2-percent increase in the reserves of nuclear fuels and 16 percent in the production of concentrated uranium, which amounted to 135 tons.

BALBIN REITERATES NEED FOR PARTY ORGANIZATION LAW

PY292050Y Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1810 GMT 29 Dec 78 PY

[Excerpts] Cordoba, 29 Dec (NA)--Ricardo Balbin, the president of the national directorate of the Radical Civic Union [UCR], stated here that "the best thing for the country's interests, especially for its political future, would be the promulgation of a law on the organization of parties." He also warned that if this year there are no "indications" that this will happen, "I am afraid there will be serious and critical consequences."

In an exclusive interview published in today's edition of the local newspaper LA VOZ DEL INTERIOR, the veteran political leader also mentioned his arrest a few days ago in a restaurant in the Vicente Lopez township. He said that it "was not the result of a government stand, but that of a sector of the armed forces which wants to create conflict within themselves through civilian sanctions."

Balbin stated: "The country is politically insecure as a result of the government's lack of a political plan. It did not have one in the past and has still not prepared one for the future. This circumstance clashes with the attitude of the civilian sector which very much wants to help and which demonstrated great unity once the events of 1976 took place."

In referring to his brief recent arrest, Balbin said: "Naturally, these latest events, in which I was the central figure, are distasteful but we have to take them calmly. In another time, we could have gone out to protest, but now we know that it is not the result of a government stand but that of a sector of the armed forces which wants to create conflict within themselves through civilian sanctions."

Balbin continued: "Obviously, this shows that if there are no outright differences, there are events which prove their existence. I believe that the recent events to which I am referring, and from which we will not benefit politically, have been used to make the discrepancies between one sector and the other obvious. While some were responsible for the measure, others tried to have the situation solved immediately."

Balbin said that "this will at some time permit us to know who is who, and we will finally be able to know who is on which side."

PRESIDENT PADILLA DELIVERS YEAREND MESSAGE TO NATION

PY021356Y La Paz Radio Panamericana Network in Spanish 1130 GMT 2 Jan 79 PY

[Text] In his end-of-the-year message, Gen David Padilla Arancibia stated that the government junta will not be (?radicalized) nor will it carry out nationalization. He added: The government does not enforce controls which could hurl the Bolivian people into hardships they would not be able to endure. The government is not planning to carry out nationalization. These plans are only in the minds of those who spread rumors.

Furthermore, he was explicit in stating that the army troops will not leave mining centers because requests issued in this regard lack justification. He said the army cannot carry out actions which deviate from its basic functions and which are against the law.

He added that the military junta has not made commitments to any political party. He said: There is no bond between the armed forces and a specific ideology.

He reasserted that those who consider themselves well informed anticipate [words indistinct] of the military government. He stated: They forget that the government upholds the national constitution, respects the individual and his inalienable rights, supports private initiative and duly guarantees productive enterprises.

General Padilla also noted in his message that the economic situation is not very encouraging, particularly in the forthcoming months. He disclosed in this regard that the military junta will never enforce actions which would result in the economic, social and political destruction of the country. He reported that the military junta's precent plans, despite having [words indistinct], has no totalitarian trends. Regarding the economy he added that it is important to bear two factors in mind: The first depends on the actions of the Bolivian Government in accordance with real national needs, and the second is a foreign factor closely linked with international decisions related to the permanent inflation process, fluctuations in the prices of resources, difficulties which developing nations have in obtaining foreign financing, etc.

The president of the military junta further declared that the Bolivian peso will not be devalued. Therefore, people must not think there will be imminent devaluations as many pessimists and political [word indistinct] are saying.

General Padilla added that in accordance with the needs of the people, the government junta will maintain a firm position in defense of the Bolivian people's economy. It will intensify the search for new sources of traditional exports, particularly minerals, by developing a policy adjusted to national needs and by creating the proper motivations. He noted that the military junta does not have any planned economic package which could cause alarm or uneasiness in the country.

General Padilla explained his position regarding [words indistinct] and (?unions). He is against their participation as candidates in the elections. He added that the political carnival must end and explained that any (?anarchic) situation from any political sector will be eradicated by the military junta.

Regarding Bolivia's landlocked situation, General Padilla stated that relations with Chile have not been resumed and that this situation will remain unchanged until there is a firm purpose to act in accordance with just principles and to recognize our full rights.

The president of the military junta believes that optimism is an important factor in the new life of the country [words indistinct].

COB OFFICIAL CRITICAL OF PADILLA'S LABOR POLICY

PY030239Y La Paz Radio Cruz del Sur Network in Spanish 2330 GMT 2 Jan 79 PY

[Text] The public relations secretary of the Bolivian Labor Central, COB, Rene Higueras del Barco, said that President David Padilla was unrealistic when he said that the army will not leave the mining areas and that union leaders should not take part in political activity.

As can be recalled, the chief of the military [illegible], in his 31 December 1978 speech, said that the military troops will remain in the mining centers and warned that the armed forces will not grant the requests made by political parties demanding the withdrawal of the military from the mines.

Higueras del Barco said that General Padilla forgets that the workers are responsible for their actions and do not need the protection of the military. He added that, on the contrary, the presence of troops in the centers of production creates unrest for the workers and their families.

With regard to the remark that union leaders should not take part in political activities, Higuera del Barco said that the workers are the producers of the country's economy and therefore they have the right to take part in political activity. He said: I believe that the union leaders and the grassroots workers have the right to take part in the country's political activity.

With regard to the military-peasant pact, he pointed out that this agreement, signed years ago, was imposed to put the peasants [word indistinct] at the service of their (?employers) [words indistinct].

Higueras said that peasants, like [name indistinct], have been killed in many parts of the national territory and that these killings were carried out by the military. He said that the COB has never recognized the existence of the military-peasant pact because it is an attack on the interests of the (?peasants).

HUMAN RIGHTS ASSEMBLY ISSUES YEAREND MESSAGE

PY290245Y La Paz Radio Panamericana Network in Spanish 0000 GMT 29 Dec 78 PY

[Text] The Bolivian Permanent Assembly for Human Rights has called for the disbandment of repressive mechanisms such as the Department of Political Order, the state intelligence service, and other similar organizations. This announcement was made by the vice president of the assembly, (Rosario Chacon de Garcia), who indicated that this decision was made during the Second National Congress of the Permanent Assembly for Human Rights held in Cochabamba during the first days of December.

(Rosario Chacon de Garcia) also released an end-of-the-year message:

[Begin (Chacon de Garcia) recording] It was decided once more to maintain the nonpolitical nature of the Bolivian Permanent Assembly for Human Rights. At this preelectoral time when political activities are intensified, the organization has called upon its members to preserve the unity of the institution. It has also ratified its basic nature and intent as the protector of freedom, truth and justice. It also calls upon all parties and political organizations to respect the nature of the assembly and to avoid manipulating it for the fulfillment of their own partisan interests because by doing this they would only weaken a defense mechanism for the Bolivian people.

Our congress has been honored by the presence of representatives from important union and peasant organizations of the country. This is a great encouragement to our task because it guarantees our ability to maintain close contact with large national sectors to better fulfill their needs.

The congress also drafted a note concerning the elections and, considering that the process must have maximum guarantees, the following demands were made:

A. The abrogation of the military-peasant pact.

B. The withdrawal of troops from mining and peasant centers.

C. The disbandment of official repressive mechanisms.

D. Trial and punishment for all paramilitary groups. [end recording]

The Permanent Assembly for Human Rights also paid homage to the four women of the mines who enabled the conquest of both political and union rights by means of their hunger strike. The outrages committed against human rights in past years cannot be considered a sad page of our past history. Banzer's and Pereda's regimes must be brought to trial to establish the responsibilities for so many attacks against human rights, (Rosario Chacon de Garcia) indicated.

[Begin (Chacon de Garcia) recording] The assembly fervently hopes that justice will prevail in the solution of our country's landlocked situation. Therefore, it supports our claims for a sea outlet and a solution capable of fulfilling the hopes of all Bolivians. This solution must be found within the framework of peaceful coexistence among Latin American peoples.

Considering there is a danger that [words indistinct] within the atmosphere of tension prevailing in the southern cone, thus seeking a military solution which will be detrimental to the nation's popular interests.

The elections scheduled for next year must be viewed as a positive event within the process of normalization of our political life and as an important step toward the creation of a state of law. However, the electoral process must not be magnified out of proportion. It will be valid only if the citizenry becomes aware of its responsibility of choosing the ticket which would best suit the needs of the country. [end recording]

The human rights assembly demanded the withdrawal of troops from military and peasant centers of the country and the fulfillment by the armed forces of the functions specifically assigned to them by the constitution.

The assembly insisted on the abrogation of the military-peasant pact and demanded that the government provide the broadest guarantees for an effective democratization process.

[Begin (Chacon de Garcia) recording] The need to solve the country's economic crisis requires that several basic factors be pointed out. Even though this economic crisis has both domestic and foreign causes, we must not forget that few were the times when a [illegible]yant economic situation like the one experienced in previous years had such a negative effect on popular classes which not only failed to benefit from it but have seen their incomes frozen. I would also point out the mismanagement and squandering which is the cause of the current desperate situation of state enterprises. Thus, it is not fair that the working classes, the factory workers, the miners and the peasants should now pay the price for economic recovery. [end recording]

PRESENCIA VIEWS NEED FOR RELAXATION OF INTERNAL SECURITY

PY292338Y La Paz PRESENCIA in Spanish 28 Dec 78 p 3 PY

[Editorial: "Security Organizations"]

[Text] At the meeting of party delegates which drew up the suggestions for the government on regulations for the next elections, it was proposed that a request to abolish the state's security organizations as a means for guaranteeing citizens' rights and election honesty be presented.

During the meeting itself, it was pointed out that such a drastic measure was not feasible. For their part, the authorities also expressed their opinion with regard to this, emphasizing that the state needs to defend itself from both its internal and foreign adversaries, which resort to illegal means or try to do so.

We believe that this issue is extremely important for the civilization of our public life. Unfortunately, there is a need for some explanations.

Those who proposed the elimination of the so-called state security organizations undoubtedly had in mind the abuses which these organizations have perpetrated all during our country's life, but especially during the last 25 years. During this period, they acquired monstrous proportions, committed abuses against thousands of citizens and became not agents of order, but true terrorists and will remain as an embarrassing episode in our history. There have been illegal arrests in an enormous number of cases, concentration camps which at one point housed thousands of prisoners, brutal and refined tortures which combined traditional methods and the use of the most modern techniques. They even persecuted the relatives of political adversaries in order to torture them, or so they would be betrayed by their own parents, brothers or spouses. Even private lives were invaded to carry our blackmail schemes which were sure to succeed. It is only natural that no one should want this to be repeated because we should follow the road to civilization and not seek to return to savagery.

Those who believe that the security organizations should remain fear, above all, the bad political customs which dominate us and which lead many to hope to come into power through conspiracies or coups. The government has the right to defend itself and to prevent political violence. These arguments have a solid basis. Nobody can demand that governments surrender unarmed before any situation, or that they should limit themselves to repressing evil which is already a fact. Lack of foresight could cause much blood to be spilled needlessly. In addition, there are organizations which deal not only with internal political problems but also with the state's and government's foreign security. This is a point which cannot be foresaken until international relations change radically.

According to what we see, neither of the sides is entirely wrong. However, what we should really be seeking is harmonization. The way we see it, that is not going to happen unless we recognize the state's and government's right to defend themselves. However, we should add that this defense should necessarily be fulfilled while respecting human rights, the constitution, the laws and the sentiments of our people. The need to defend public order and calm does not justify the use of means which are against human dignity, which cause shame to the nation, which discredit the country and which ignore our institutions. We do not see how a government can ask that an everyday citizen respect legal orders if the authorites themselves who should be models and provide good examples--as they swore they would when assuming their posts--are the first to commit the most atrocious violations, incite them or tolerate them, and sometimes even reward those who commit them.

Security for the state and the authorities, yes; but not at the cost of the security and dignity of the citizens.

CHILEAN POSITION ON BEAGLE INCONSISTENT WITH PAST ATTITUDE

PY0302llY La Paz PRESENCIA in Spanish 29 Dec 78 p 3 PY

[Editorial: "Chile Invokes Principles"]

[Text] In view of the probability that Argentina may resort to force to assert its rights, Chile is once again proclaiming principles as though it had always respected those principles. It resorts once more to the defensive tactics it has always used to repeal the just claims of Bolivia.

If the arguments were advanced as a simple demonstration of patriotism, there is very little that can be said against them. The only thing one can say in this case is what a Spanish philosopher used to say: One has to side with his fatherland and his parents whether they have reason or not. We are not going to argue about this because we realize that love for the fatherland can make us either blind or shortsighted. What we criticize is the attempt to make us believe that Chile has always respected the principles which it is now proclaiming in the face of a stronger opponent.

Let us focus on two typical cases about which we were informed yesterday.

In a public statement, former President Frei asserted that Argentina's inclination to resort to force may create "a bad precedent that treaties and arbitrations requested by two countries can be disregarded whenever a country has the force to do so." Former President Frei is an educated man who only out of patriotic and voluntary forgetfulness could have said that the current Argentine-Chilean conflict may create a precedent. This precedent has been clearly set by Chile a century ago when, for trivial reasons which were only a pretext, it disregarded the border treaties it had signed with Bolivia, invaded our territory and took possession of it through the use of force--as menacingly warned before by the Chilean ambassador named Koening. The principle proclaimed by Frei cannot be applied when it favors Chile and disregarded when it does not. This is plain Machiavellianism suited to circumstances, not to principles.

The same thing can be said about the expulsion of undocumented Chilean citizens who lived in the Argentine southern zone, dangerously close to the border where the pessimists believe that an open conflict may break out. The Chilean protest over such expulsions may create the illusion that Chile stands for feelings of humanity and respect for foreign residents--a praiseworthy principle, of course. But our neighbor forgets what it did to hundreds of Bolivians when the Pinochet regime took over. Our fellow countrymen were shoved into railroad freight cars and shipped to Bolivia under deplorable conditions. At that time there was no tension between the two countries and Bolivia had been the first country to provide assistance to the victims of the revolution which took place in Chile. Our neighbor got away with that act of disregard for elementary human rights only because of our weakness and the open sympathy which many circles in Bolivia felt, and still feel, for the Pinochet regime.

As can be seen, Chile can bring up or set aside principles for reasons of mere convenience. This is to say that Chile does not recognize principles, but only adopts postures which are nothing but postures. This commentary has no other purpose than to point out the lack of consistency in the Chilean position in the light of truth. We have nothing to criticize regarding the principles Chile invokes.

Those principles ought to be respected at all times. Then they would be valid instruments to guarantee peace and brotherhood among American nations.

EL DIARIO SCORES CARTER'S ABANDONMENT OF TAIWAN

PY292355Y La Paz EL DIARIO in Spanish 28 Dec 78 P 2 PY

[Editorial: "A Wavering International Policy"]

[Text] A few days ago the world was shaken by the decision of Carter's administration to abandon Nationalist China, leaving it practically unprotected. This significant decision did not take into account the democratic spirit and the otherwise much talked about respect for human rights of the Government of Taiwan, neither did it take into account the unanimous decision of over 17 million inhabitants of the island to preserve their independence and sovereignty.

This disconcerting decision was a severe blow to all democratic regimes and provided vital encouragement for popular or Communist China, an advantage which no doubt will be used worldwide by the political parties that follow Peking's guidelines. All this, no doubt, is part of the wavering high-level international political game where it is obvious that economic interests and the desire for world control by the great powers are more important than respect and loyalty toward more or less weak and underdeveloped countries. Besides, it is well known that for years there has been a permanent friction between the two main communist powers, which accuse each other of deviating from and betraying Marxist-Leninist ideology, a friction which gets worse and worse every time. In turn, fearing a PRC-USSR agreement, the United States reacted in its own manner, strengthening bonds with Peking. However, the negative side of this policy is the sacrifice of Formosa, which has given ample proof of loyalty to the democratic world and specifically to Washington. In addition to this, it must be emphasized tnat the decision recently made by the United States is undeniably serious because it means that the main guidelines of its international policy--as it has already been said--abide by and are inspired by the defense of its specific interests without regard for the means which must be used. Thus, the abandonment of Taiwan could be paralleled to the invasion of Czechoslovakia or Hungary. In the case of Nationalist China, no attention was given to the fact that its people had attained independence, stability and progress by making sacrifices of all possible kinds.

And finally, the strengthening of friendship ties with a communist power in order to neutralize another communist power has certain dangers if we take into account the well-known ups and downs of international politics. No one would be surprised if, in the course of events, a cordial "entente" were to take place between Moscow and Peking, something which could put an end to democracy throughout the planet.

BRIEFS

TIN EXPORTS, PROSPECTS GOOD--The annual report of the Mines and Metallurgy Ministry indicated that between January and October this year, the average price for tin was $5.57 per fine pound. The total volume of exports as of 31 December is expected to be 31,000 tons as compared to 32,500 tons last year. The under secretary of the Mines and Metallurgy Ministry indicated that Bolivia is now in a better position to withstand international pressures aimed at keeping the price of tin low. [La Paz Radio Cruz del Sur Network in Spanish 2330 GMT 29 Dec 78 PY]

OIL, GAS SALES TO ARGENTINA--La Paz, 30 Dec (AFP)--It was officially reported in La Paz that Argentina has purchased from Bolivia gas and oil for $112 million during 1978. Gas sales were $76.8 million. [Paris AFP in Spanish 1453 GMT 30 Dec 78 PY]

GEISEL REVIEWS 1978, PREVIEWS 1979 IN ADDRESS TO NATION

PY300231Y Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2300 GMT 29 Dec 78 PY

[Text of yearend message to the nation by Brazilian President Ernesto Geisel on 29 December--recorded]

[Excerpts] Brazilians: I want to address all Brazilians tonight to convey to you--now for the last time--my yearend message as president of the nation, to briefly outline to you what we were able to accomplish in 1978 and the prospects we visualize for 1979.

Despite the natural disasters and the population growth we experienced, our gross domestic product, primarily our industrial production, increased from 5 to 6 percent. The real, annual per capita income rose to $1,600.

We were unable to obtain a surplus in our foreign trade as we did in 1977 because of the reduced agricultural production. We had a deficit on the order of $900 million, which is however lower than those of 1974, 1975, and 1976. A remarkable effort was made in the export of manufactured products, which now accounts for 52 percent of our exports.

Our foreign debt, both in the government and private sector, rose to nearly $41 billion and the level of our currency reserves reached approximately $12 billion, which shows not only the excellent credit our country has abroad but also the availability of larger resources to cope with unexpected adverse situations.

This year will close with an increase in the general price index on the order of 41 percent. We must state however that major increases occurred only in wholesale prices, not in retail prices.

A new government headed by Joao Baptista de Oliveira Figueiredo will take office on 15 March next year. Among the major problems this new government will have to cope with are undoubtedly those related to the foreign debt, inflation and the consequences which may result from repealing the institutional acts.

The size of our foreign debt, which causes alarm to many, does not seem to be compatible with the present stage of development of our economy. This is an inevitable repercussion of the major trade deficits we have experienced since the petroleum crisis. Our policy designed to promote exports--which has been surprisingly criticized by many--prevented us from suffering an economic hypertrophy.

Those subsidies which were evenly distributed in time--as a result of adequate planning--were duly compensated for by the steady increase of our exports, by the decrease in our imports to the extent that our investment policy in basic investments and capital assets began to yield better results, by our large currency reserves, and finally by the renewed credit we merit among international financial institutions, which have confidence in the exploitation of our great potentials.

As a matter of fact, it is proper to note that traditional agricultural activities, enhanced by the incorporation of new areas and by greater productivity stemming from technological research and technical assistance, now show encouraging signs that there will be good harvests if abnormal drought periods do not occur. This, we will be able to fully meet our internal needs and will have surplus for export to benefit our trade balance.

Inflation is today a problem which requires the greatest cooperation of the Brazilian society. We have availed ourselves of several measures designed to neutralize inflation such as corrective monetary, exchange and wage measures.

Although these neutralizers prevent inflation from disrupting development, they tend to keep the inflation rate in rigid trends. The Brazilian society certainly cannot and must not tolerate annual price increases on the order of 40 percent.

The government should take part of the action and we hope that better weather conditions will naturally decelerate inflation in 1979.

There will always be signs of dissatisfaction in a developing country like ours, which under normal circumstances has to face complex challenges, but even more so in a society overwhelmed with excessive aspirations as are most societies today. Therefore, there will be those who will always minimize the achievements made, no matter how important these may be. These remarks become even more natural in a country which is going through a process of political relaxation.

Political relaxation imposes greater responsibilities on everyone, especially on workers and businessmen. No one should make impossible demands, no one should attempt to create a privileged class of workers to the detriment of less-favored people, the business sector should not seek to fight inflation by shifting the burden onto the shoulders of others. There are countries in which excessive demands caused rampant inflation, which can be curbed only through a painful period of recession and unemployment. We have witnessed the recent experience of many neighbors and we should still remember our own experience in 1963.

Since political relaxation reduces the degree of tutelage exercised by the executive branch, each citizen should become increasingly responsible for the future of the entire nation.

The greatest achievement made by the revolution has been the prevalence of rationality, after putting aside romantic theories which usually lead countries to destruction. No one should take political relaxation as a pretext to indulge in the same errors and fantasies of 15 years ago. Instead, political relaxation should help us create a climate conducive to an ample exchange of opinions and discussion of projects, which are so necessary to make rationality yield benefits.

By strengthening society through an exchange of ideas, we will in fact face with greater confidence the difficulties lying ahead of us, which although not threatening--thank God--are always a cause of concern.

Now that we are at the threshold of a period of ample democratic freedoms and possible excesses, our justified concern over public order and political stability must find comfort in the system of constitutional safeguards established to defend the regime and the laws and to guarantee national security. Should the cohesion and loyalty of the armed forces--in their constitutional mission of safeguarding the republic--and the strong patriotic conscience of the Brazilian people fall short of achieving this, we will have to establish increasingly high standards to make democracy more dignified and effective by properly adjusting the two basic elements: individual freedoms and the responsible participation of each individual in the decisionmaking process of their communities at the various national levels. May the elite groups, primarily those of politicians, be able to properly assess the historical moment we are experiencing--which marks the end of an exceptional, authoritarian period that became necessary for the nation--and may they rise to the generous aspirations of the Brazilian people.

Therefore, we are facing the future with sound optimism, confident that 1979 will be a year of solid achievements and clear advancement in the integrated progress of the noble Brazilian nation under the administration of a new government to which we wish complete success. I want to convey to you all my sincere wishes for a happy new year. Good night.

PRESIDENT-ELECT STRESSES GOAL OF POLITICAL NORMALIZATION

PY301414Y Paris AFP in Spanish 0322 GMT 30 Dec 78 PY

[Text] Brasilia, 29 Dec (AFP)--Brazil's president-elect, Gen Joao Baptista Figueiredo, stated at a press interview today that his government will be devoted to the political normalization of the country. To achieve this objective, General Figueiredo said he will fulfill the commitments he has made publicly. General Figueiredo said the country knows his viewpoints on political normalization, amnesty and human rights, and he added: "This is the reason I do not understand why the hand I have offered in reconciliation has not been accepted yet." He then said that perhaps it was so because he had been chief of the National Intelligence Service, or because he is an army general, or for some other reason.

Figueiredo stressed his determination to complete the country's political normalization and his hope that everyone understands his determination. General Figueiredo stated: "I want to see the Brazilian Democratic Movement [MDB] as an opposition, not a hostile party, and I trust in the patriotism of the MDB people to act in this way."

He expressed his concern over the development of the political situation, the unfolding of the economic situation and the social tensions they may create.

General Figueiredo did not want to reveal the names of his future cabinet, but he did reveal the designation of Senator Jarbas Passarinho and Deputy Nelson Marchezan as leaders of his government in the Senate and the Chamber of Deputies.

FIGUEIREDO SAYS GEISEL NOT VETOING CABINET CHOICES

PY300252Y Porto Alegre Radio Guaiba in Portuguese 0230 GMT 30 Dec 78 PY

[Text] Brasilia--In his first press conference granted after being elected president of the nation, General Figueiredo stated that he will be the only one responsible for choosing his cabinet. On these grounds the general refuted press rumors that the current president has been vetoing certain names. Irked by a question regarding probable negative consequences of keeping in government the current chief of civilian household, Gen Golbery do Couto e Silva, Figueiredo said that he will keep General Golbery in government regardless of whatever pressures if he believes it necessary to do so.

Meanwhile, in Porto Alegre, Senate opposition leader Paulo Brossard said "it is a bad sign" when he was told that during his press conference in Brasilia General Figueiredo admitted the possibility of keeping Gen Golbery do Couto e Silva in government. Regarding the appointment of National Renewal Alliance bloc [ARENA] leaders in the Chamber of Deputies and the Senate, Brossard said that Senator Jarbas Passarinho is an illustrious man who has all the qualifications for being a government leader. As to the appointment of Deputy Nelson Marchezan as leader of the ARENA bloc in the Chamber of Deputies, Senator Brossard refrained from commenting.

AMNESTY COMMITTEE DELIVERS LIST OF MISSING PERSONS TO GEISEL

PY291733Y Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 28 Dec 78 p 7 PY

[Excerpts] The Brazilian Committee for Amnesty [CBA] delivered a letter to the Planalto Palace yesterday addressed to President Geisel with the names of 54 persons who have been missing as long ago as 1969. [paragraph continues]

This number, however, is considered incomplete by the committee's commission charged with gathering information on dead and missing persons. At the time it was submitted, the letter was given entry No 9966/78.

The letter said that "those men and women whose names are now submitted to the nation's president by the CBA and by their relatives are not persons who left home one day and did not return because of amnesia or--as was insinuated by government sources--because of incompatibility in their marriages. Strangely, those men and women had a political background and they had standing in their communities. They were engaged in political activities and held a definite position against the situation the country has been experiencing since 1964. And more strangely yet, none of the missing persons were pro-government. Why?

PRESIDENT GEISEL GRANTS AMNESTY TO 128 EXILES

PY300355Y Paris AFP in Spanish 0041 GMT 30 Dec 78 PY

[Text] Brasilia, 29 Dec (AFP)--It was disclosed here tonight that the president of Brazil, Gen Ernesto Geisel, today used his exceptional powers, which will be revoked on 31 December, to annul the exile sentences imposed on 128 Brazilian citizens.

The information was disclosed by the Presidential Press Secretariat, and adds that President Geisel used those same powers today to abolish the General Investigations Commission, which was empowered to propose the confiscation of illegally obtained assets.

The texts of the decrees will be disclosed on Tuesday in the official government newsletter.

Since 1969, 128 Brazilian citizens have been exiled after having been sentenced to various penalties for participating in subversive activities. These were freed and traded for four foreign diplomats kidnaped in Brazil by clandestine extreme leftist organizations.

All exceptional laws which have been in effect in Brazil since 1964 will be revoked on 31 December, on the eve before the amendment to the national constitution reestablishing democratic rights annulled during the past 14 years comes into effect.

AIR, SEA SHIPMENT OF EXPORTS TO CHILE PLANNED

PY291807Y Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 28 Dec 78 p 6 PY

[Excerpts] About 45 of the 160 vehicles impounded in the infantry regiment headquarters in Paso de Los Libres for more than 2 weeks were brought back to Brazil yesterday afternoon, and some of them will be sent to Chile next week by ship through the port of Rio Grande do Sul.

Since the situation at the border continues unchanged--that is, the Argentine authorities are slow in granting permits for traffic headed for Chile--Brazilian exporters are making preparations for shipment by air or sea, according to the size of the export products.

Seventy buses will have to be sent to Chile in the next 2 months and so negotiations are underway to use the maritime route permanently, at least until Chilean-Argentine relations return to normal. This change implies a $1,800 hike in freight cost per unit, which then will go up to a minimum of $4,000 per unit, representing an average 3-percent increase in the CIF cost of the units.

PAPAL ENVOY ARRIVES FROM BUENOS AIRES, TO MEET WITH PINOCHET

Cardinal Samore in Santiago

PY022046Y Paris AFP in Spanish 2014 GMT 2 Jan 79 PY

[Text] Santiago, Chile, 2 Jan (AFP)--The pope's envoy, Antonio Samore, arrived here from Buenos Aires today in a new stage of his mission to Chile and Argentina aimed at finding a solution to the Beagle Channel conflict.

Samore, Pinochet To Meet 3 Jan

PY030035Y Paris AFP in Spanish 2337 GMT 2 Jan 79 PY

[Excerpt] Santiago, Chile, 2 Jan (AFP)--It was reported here that Chilean President Augusto Pinochet postponed until tomorrow the meeting he was going to hold today with Cardinal Antonio Samore, the pope's envoy in the Beagle Channel conflict.

The meeting which was scheduled for 1730 (2030 GMT) was postponed at the last minute by the chief of state, it was learned from reliable sources.

The Pinochet-Samore meeting is scheduled for 1100 (1400 GMT) tomorrow and will be held in the Chilean chief of state's private residence.

GOVERNMENT PROTESTS HARASSMENT OF CHILEANS IN ARGENTINA

PY022017Y Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1930 GMT 2 Jan 79 PY

[Text] Santiago, Chile, 2 Jan (LATIN)--The Chilean foreign minister today protested to the Argentine Government the bad treatment and kidnaping of Chilean citizens and the intimidation which some Chilean consular officials have experienced in Argentina.

An official communique released here also charged that many Chileans expelled from Argentina have suffered "serious moral and economic damage."

The document mentioned cases of arbitrary detentions and pointed out that "there are armed groups which are detaining and kidnaping Chilean residents in Salta and that Mario del Carmen Gonzalez and Oscar Miranda have disappeared due to the actions of these groups." The communique also emphasized the "intimidation campaign and threats being carried out against some Chilean consuls and consular officials." It referred to the attack recently carried out against the Chilean consulate in Comodoro Rivadavia, Chubut Province.

The official communique emphasized the confidence of the Chilean Government that Argentine officials will take measures to prevent the recurrence of these actions and to reaffirm security guarantees for Chilean consular officials.

NAVAL UNITS RETURNING TO VALPARAISO BASE

PY030155Y Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0050 GMT 3 Jan 79 PY

[Text] Mendoza, 2 Jan (TELAM)--Chilean Navy units will arrive in the port of Valparaiso tomorrow, according to reports received from the capital of the neighboring country.

According to a communique of the Chilean Navy, the ships are returning to their base "after completing a *mission* assigned to them by the navy commander in chief."

The report said that "the crew will have a period of rest in this port with their families which they were away from during Christmas and New Year's."

FOREIGN MINISTRY SAYS SPIES IN PERU ACTED ON OWN INITIATIVE

PY300139Y Paris AFP in Spanish 2330 GMT 29 Dec 78 PY

[Text] Santiago, Chile, 29 Dec (AFP)--It was officially reported here today that the Chileans accused of espionage in Peru are members of the Chilean Armed Forces and one of them had diplomatic status.

The Foreign Ministry issued a communique stating that the officials involved in the affair do not belong to the Chilean Foreign Service but to the armed forces.

One of them had diplomatic status and another was an administrative official, an aide to the former, without any diplomatic status, the communique indicated.

The Foreign Ministry emphasized that the actions carried out by these two persons, who were expelled from Peru, were individual, isolated acts and that they were not following instructions from above.

The communique stated that the affair was verbally conveyed to the Chilean Foreign Ministry by Peruvian Foreign Minister Jose de la Puente during his visit to Chile in November this year.

The Peruvian foreign minister requested the withdrawal of these persons from the Chilean Embassy, a step which was immediately implemented by the Chilean Government, thus terminating the incident, according to the communique.

The note added that on 22 December, the Chilean Embassy in Lima was informed that another Chilean official was involved in the same affair and his withdrawal from the country was requested. "This withdrawal was carried out by the Chilean Government within 24 hours."

According to the Foreign Ministry communique, the latter official was also a member of the Chilean Armed Forces who was employed in an administrative capacity and did not have diplomatic status.

The note added that "considering the excellent relations between Peru and Chile, and seeking to maintain them at this level, the Chilean Government did not request any information regarding the investigation in both cases and, accepting in good faith the verbal information it received, promptly implemented the requested measures."

The communique also mentioned the events which took place in Talara on 14 December, when two officers of the Chilean ship "Beagle" were accused of spying at an air base located in northern Peru and expelled from the country.

"Foreign Minister Hernan Cubillos (?provided) the appropriate explanations to the Peruvian Government and the Chilean Navy opened an investigation," the communique emphasized.

The Chilean Foreign Ministry reiterated in its note that friendship and cooperation are the basic elements of its policy toward the Republic of Peru.

Officials Comment Further

PY291844Y Santiago Chile Domestic Service in Spanish 1630 GMT 29 Dec 78 PY

[Text] Gen Hermann Brady said today in Lima that the Peruvian Government's charges of alleged spying by Chileans is an unfortunate situation. The president of the National Energy Commission made a stop in Lima this morning on his way from Panama. Peruvian officials have reported that the Chilean general will meet with Peruvian War Minister Oscar Molina and with the Peruvian chief of the joint staff, Gen Pedro Richter Prada. Asked about General Brady's trip, Foreign Minister Hernan Cubillos said in Santiago that General Brady is not on a Foreign Ministry mission. The Peruvian Foreign Ministry reported last Wednesday that four Chilean officials having diplomatic status were [words indistinct] allegedly spying on activities and threatening Peruvian national security. Cubillos noted that this case does not involve Chilean diplomatic officials, but armed forces personnel assigned to the Chilean Embassy in Lima. General Brady said the issue must be dealt with in accordance with its importance. He added that it was a personal mistake.

GOVERNMENT PLANNING LABOR CONCESSIONS TO THWART BOYCOTT

PY030245Y Paris AFP in Spanish 0043 GMT 3 Jan 79 PY

[Text] Santiago, Chile, 2 Jan (AFP)--It was reported here today that the Chilean Government will adopt measures favoring the workers in order to circumvent a boycott approved by a continental labor organization. Jose Pinera, the new labor minister, in one of his first official tasks today announced the immediate reestablishment of the right of assembly. The full exercise of labor rights was suspended 5 years ago when the state of siege was implemented after the military coup which overthrew the late Socialist President Salvador Allende.

Pinera outlined to a group of labor leaders the path of what the future labor institutionalization will be and the fact that it will begin to operate as of 30 June 1979. These measures will eventually lead to overcoming the boycott against Chile announced by the Inter-American Regional Labor Organization (ORIT), according to Guillermo Elton, president of the central commerce chamber.

Dissident leaders of the Group of 10, representatives of the Workers Union of Chile (UNTRACH) and of the official National Labor Front, attended the meeting with the minister. According to the labor leaders, the possibility of new labor elections after 30 June, the reestablishment of collective bargaining, the right to strike and the eventual implementation of lockouts or employers strikes, among other topices, were discussed during the meeting.

Official sources indicated today that Pinera will give a press conference during which he will report on the measures taken in order to avoid the boycott agreed on 26 November 1978 in Lima. The sources recalled that Peter Grace, president of the American Institute of Free Unionism [Instituto Americano de Sindicalismo Libre], stayed in Santiago last week holding extensive rounds of talks with the finance and labor ministers.

The afternoon newspaper LA SEGUNDA, of the EL MERCURIO chain, reported in today's edition that the instigator of the boycott against Chile, the AFL-CIO of the United States, "would consider withdrawing from its position." According to this report, the AFL-CIO would reconsider its position if the following points are resolved: union elections, petition lists or collective bargaining, the right to strike and other labor matters which are now under study.

COMMENTATOR BLAMES U.S. DIPLOMACY FOR SHAH'S PLIGHT

PY021625Y Santiago Chile Domestic Service in Spanish 1045 GMT 2 Jan 79 PY

[Rafael Pisainer commentary]

[Excerpts] The U.S. Government, or more specifically U.S. diplomacy, has had the courage to start 1979 by losing one of its important allies. In simple terms, ladies and gentlemen, the shah has been virtually overthrown despite his search for an honorable way to hand over power to a civilian government while he takes a vacation.

Meanwhile, clashes between the armed forces and civilians continue and a state of general insurrection predominates in this nation of vital importance to both the United States and the Soviet Union. Let us not forget that the Soviet Union borders on the south with Iran through the Caspian Sea.

Why did this happen? For the simple reason, ladies and gentlemen, that the United States is determined to establish its way of life in the rest of the world without considering the peculiar characteristics and habits of each nation in which it tries to enforce the formula of a Western-style democracy, a multipartisan democracy, a democracy with full human rights.

The shah made the mistake of bowing his head to U.S. pressure, and he began to carry out a very praiseworthy program to modernize his country. He granted women the same rights as men, called elections and started a modernization program throughout Iran. All this was praised by the United States especially because the United States sold Iran several million dollars' worth of equipment and technology, airplanes, educational systems and everything the shah needed to carry out his modernization program. But neither the shah nor the United States took into account the particular characteristics of the Iranians.

Iran has a population of about 40 million, of which 98 percent are Moslems belonging to the Shiite sect. These people are absolute traditionalists. They do not accept movies because they consider them a sin. They do not accept the equal rights of women, and Iranian women are dressed in black from head to toe. They also rejected the presence of Western culture, whether represented by technology or banks, because the Shiite sect believes this is a foreign influence which corrupts the Iranian people.

With people like this who even reject movies, it was obvious that the U.S. formula to modernize and Westernize this country politically, educationally and technologically in a few months would fail.

The Soviets have found an excellent opportunity because they are neighbors and now the shah is losing power minute by minute. The United States has had the courage to lose an ally which was not only indispensable in this part of the world, but also one of its main sources of oil. This is aggravated by the fact that Iran, with its borders on the Hormuz Strait, had the mission of keeping peace and security among the oil-producing Arab nations. That is, if there were Arabs on one side and Iranians on the other the United States had no problems concerning its supply of oil from the Middle East.

All this has gone down the drain. Thanks to whom? Thanks to the brains in the State Department. If things continue as they are now, before the end of 6 months they will have a pro-Soviet government in Iran on their hands. Furthermore, the oil-producing Arab countries will be seriously threatened with experiencing the same situation. You can see how these standard, universal U.S. formulas should be carefully thought out before even considering them.

LABOR SECTOR DECLARES 'STATE OF EMERGENCY'

PA030305Y Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 0000 GMT 3 Jan 79 PA

[Text] Bogota--The labor sector today declared itself in a state of emergency in response to the multiple staple price increases decreed by the government. It said that it will ask President Turbay Ayala to again revise minimum salaries.

The legal affairs secretary of the Union of Workers of Colombia [UTC], Jose Corredor Nunez, after pointing out that the minimum salary readjustment was annulled by the increased prices, noted that the labor unions cannot be mere spectators in the present situation and must face it united. He asked labor leaders to set aside hatred and differences in the National Labor Council and stated that the UTC will serve as a rallying point to unite the defense entities [as heard] of the destitute sectors.

LABOR MINISTER DISCUSSES MINIMUM WAGE

PA022038Y Bogota Radio Cadena Nacional in Spanish 1730 GMT 2 Jan 79 PA

[Report on interview with Colombian Labor Minister Rodrigo Marin Bernal on 2 January 1979, place not given--recorded]

[Text] Bogota--During a news conference at noon today, Labor Minister Rodrigo Marin Bernal discussed the possibility that the government will readjust wages this year. [Begin Marin Bernal recording] The National Wage Council did not meet for 6 years from 1963 to 1969. However, it met in 1969 and again 3 years later in 1972 and after it has met at various intervals. In response to your question, the National Wage Council meeting depends on various factors, the key one being, undoubtedly, price behavior.

The National Wage Council will be convened after the law whereby the president is granted special powers to reform labor legislation is enacted. The bill [words indistinct]. [end recording]

Marin Bernal added that this administration is not dogmatic and that it will place special importance on means of achieving government-labor understanding. An increase higher than that contained in the minimum wage could unleash dangerous inflationary pressures with a very negative effect on the employment rate, the labor minister said.

The labor minister said that the new hike is in line with the current level of economic activity and it can be presumed that the readjustment will be implemented without problems that might result in a recession which would render the readjustment futile. Marin Bernal announced the government's desire to firmly and steadfastly defend the purchasing power of Colombians.

GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCES PROGRAM TO FIGHT PRICE INCREASES

PA022040Y Bogota Radio Cadena Nacional in Spanish 1730 GMT 2 Jan 79 PA

[Text] Bogota--The national government today announced the implementation of a vigorous action program to immediately attack speculation to avoid damaging the new wage policy that will affect Colombian labor. Labor Minister Rodrigo Marin Bernal told this station at noon that unjustified hikes caused by speculators harm workers' wages and produce a climate of social discomfort.

He said that he will implement a number of suggestions made by the Colombian Consumers Confederation to curb the inflationary spiral that is threatening the minimum wage. We are aware of this situation, Minister Marin Bernal said, and we will use all means available to the government to seriously punish those who raise their prices [words indistinct].

M-19 GROUP STEALS 5,000 RIFLES FROM MILITARY INSTALLATION

PA021922Y Madrid EFE in Spanish 1823 GMT 2 Jan 79 PA

[Text] Bogota, 2 Jan (EFE)--An urban unit of the M-19 terrorist movement today stole more than 5,000 rifles from an installation of the Military Institutes Brigade [BIM] here.

A military source unofficially told EFE that the terrorists entered the northern side of the military installation and took modern weapons used exclusively by the armed forces.

According to unofficial reports, the terrorists entered the arms depot through a tunnel. After stealing the weapons they painted their organization's slogan on the walls.

The Military Intelligence Service (F-2), which is in charge of combating subversive groups, operates the BIM, the most important armed forces unit in Bogota.

FARC GUERRILLAS SLAY THREE KIDNAPED EARLIER

PA301648Y Bogota EL SIGLO in Spanish 21 Dec 78 p 1 PA

[By Rafael Bahamon]

[Text] Neiva, 20 Dec--Three men kidnaped last Monday by the self-styled Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) from La Union Penella police station, jurisdiction of Montanita municipality in Caqueta Intendancy, were found dead with several bullet wounds.

Police officer Jose Rios Canas and cattlemen Jose Ananias Rivera and Gerardo Imbachi were shot in a mountainous zone not more than 15 km from where they were kidnaped.

The bodies were hanging from trees tied with a thick rope used by FARC guerrillas.

Jose de Jesus Arcilla, the mayor of Montanita, and soldiers from the Juanambu Battalion under the command of Col Cesar Eugenio Barrios took the bodies down.

A military prosecutor has been appointed to continue the investigation.

As this newspaper already reported, the three unfortunate men were kidnaped early on 18 December when a FARC commando group attacked the village. This incident has caused a commotion in various sectors in Caqueta Intendancy and in the rest of the country.

$1 Million Demanded for Banker's Release

PA301649Y Bogota EL SIGLO in Spanish 21 Dec 78 pp 1, 8 PA

[Excerpt] Members of the self-styled Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) who last Sunday kidnaped well-known banker Eugenio Castro Borrero have notified his relatives that his release will cost them $1 million.

A military source who made this announcement confirmed that as he was leaving his ranch, La Aurora, located in Florida municipality, the Valle del Cauca leader kidnaped last Sunday had picked up 12 kidnapers in his vehicle who deceived him by wearing military uniforms when in reality they were members of FARC.

According to the military spokesman, Castro was captured by one of the groups that make up FARC's sixth front, which operates north of Cauca, bordering Valle Department.

It has been officially announced that the guerrillas have sent the banker's family a letter stating their economic demands for releasing him.

Nonetheless, combined army and police forces have been conducting an intense operation since last Monday to locate Castro Borrero and capture the guerrilla cell keeping him hostage.

Two Policemen Shot

PA3003Z3Y Madrid EFE in Spanish 0202 GMT 30 Dec 78 PA

[Text] Cali, Colombia, 29 Dec (EFE)--Two policemen were killed today during an ambush by guerrillas of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC).

The incident occurred in northern Cauca Department, a region in which the sixth front of the FARC has been operating for the past several years.

Army troops and the police have been carrying out a large operation in that region during the past few days in an effort to rescue wealthy rancher Eugenio Castro Borrero, who was kidnaped on 17 December.

Eight Peasants Killed

PA311746Y Bogota EL ESPECTADOR in Spanish 23 Dec 78 p 24-A PA

[Article by Felix Manrique Perdomo]

[Excerpt] Neiva, Colombia, 22 Dec--Civil, military and ecclesiastical authorities, civic sectors and labor organizations in Caqueta as well as in the Huila Department have been observing with great concern how the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia [FARC] have killed 8 peasants in less than 2 months in various sectors in Caqueta.

Cattlemen Mario Antonio Castano Sepulveda and Roman Monroy Castillo were killed on Wednesday, 8 November, in Montanita and "El Cerro," 40 km from Florencia. Police inspector Jose Rios Canas and cattlemen Jose Ananias Rivera and Gerardo Imbachi were kidnaped on 18 December in the town of Union Penella. They were killed on 19 December when the FARC hanged them from trees 15 km from the town.

On 25 November, FARC kidnaped Alvaro Santofimio in the town of Rionegro. The guerrillas are still holding Santofimio and have demanded 5 million pesos for his release. Later on the same day they attacked La Agraria in Cartagena del Chaira and took more than 1.8 million pesos with them. They killed peasants Isidro Chaux, Miguel Antonio Vega and Pedro N. during this attack.

Attack Repelled by Police

PA300358Y Madrid EFE in Spanish 0152 GMT 30 Dec 78 PA

[Text] Monteria, Colombia, 29 Dec (EFE)--A police patrol today repelled a guerrilla attack on the town of Urra in northern Colombia. One guerrilla was killed during the incident.

A military spokesman said that the police confiscated several automatic weapons that the guerrillas of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) abandoned when they fled.

The spokesman said that several guerrillas were wounded during the shooting, but that they fled to the mountains near Urra where a military operation is currently underway to find the guerrillas.

Guerrilla groups have attacked at least 35 towns this year. About 10 attacks were thwarted by the military authorities.

RELATIONS WITH ALGERIA, IRAQ, VIETNAM ESTABLISHED

PA020049Y Madrid EFE in Spanish 2132 GMT 1 Jan 79 PA

[Text] Bogota, 1 Jan (EFE)--Colombia today established diplomatic embassy-level relations with the governments of Algeria, Morocco, Iraq, Nigeria and Vietnam.

A communique issued by the Foreign Ministry says that initially these relations will be maintained by nonresident ambassadors.

The initiation of diplomatic relations with these five countries is in line with the desire of President Julio Cesar Turbay Ayala to strengthen ties with the countries of Africa and Asia for the benefit of peace and cooperation among all nations.

BRIEFS

TAX REVENUE DIRECTOR--Bogota--The national government this afternoon issued decree No 2865 by which it appointed Max Rodriguez Fadul as the new tax revenue director. He replaces Lazaro Mejia Arango. [Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 0000 GMT 30 Dec 78 PA]

CUSTOMS DIRECTOR--Bogota--The appointment of Adm Eduardo Melendez Ramirez as new customs director was made official today by government decree No (?2856). He replaces Guillermo Franco Camacho, who was promoted to a diplomatic position in the Latin American Free Trade Association. [Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 0000 GMT 30 Dec 78 PA]

COFFEE EXPORTS--According to official reports, coffee exports in 1978 produced $1.73 billion in revenue from 9 million sacks of coffee. [Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 0000 GMT 3 Jan 79 PA]

MORALES BERMUDEZ ANNOUNCES MAJOR CABINET CHANGES

PA300200Y Paris AFP in Spanish 0135 GMT 30 Dec 78 PA

[Text] Lima, 29 Dec (AFP)--President Francisco Morales Bermudez tonight announced important cabinet changes, including replacement of the foreign minister and the prime minister. Minister of foreign relations Jose de la Puente will be replaced on 1 February by career diplomat Carlos Garcia Bedoya, the current Peruvian ambassador to the United States. On the same date the prime minister and army general commander, Gen Oscar Molina Pallochia, will go on military retirement. His posts will be assumed by Gen Pedro Richter, currently president of the armed forces joint command and army chief of staff. On 1 January, Rear Adm Jorge Parodi will also go on military retirement and will be replaced as navy minister and general commander by Rear Adm Carlos Tirado. On 2 January, Fisheries Minister Vice Adm Francisco Mariategui will be replaced by Rear Adm Jorge Villalobos.

The departure of the military ministers is a tradition of the Peruvian military government. The ministers who retire leave their posts to the officers replacing them in the military hierarchy.

CHILEAN ENVOY BRINGS APOLOGIES FOR ESPIONAGE INCIDENT

Espionage Was Unauthorized

PA301547Y Madrid EFE in Spanish 0140 GMT 30 Dec 78 PA

[Text] Lima, 29 Dec (EFE)--Gen Herman Brady, the Chilean president's special envoy to Peru, said here today, Friday, that the acts of espionage against this country by Chileans were "individual rather than institutional" and that he will demonstrate this to Peruvian authorities.

In a talk with EFE, Brady said that Peruvian chief of state Gen Francisco Morales Bermudez will probably grant him an audience this afternoon. The former Chilean defense minister will also meet with Gen Oscar Molina, Peruvian prime minister and minister of war, and with Gen Pedro Richter, president of armed forces joint command. General Richter will replace Molina in his political and military posts on 2 February.

Brady, who is one of President Augusto Pinochet's personal aides, said that the incidents "will not affect relations between the two countries, since Chilean institutions are not responsible for them." "It was a case of misguided and reproachable personal acts," General Brady said.

Meanwhile, in the border town of Tacna, at the southern tip of Peru, there have been public calls for the death penalty for the national air force junior officer who served as a Chilean spy. It was being rumored in news circles today that the officer had already been shot at noon yesterday.

Brady declined to make further statements until he meets with Peruvian political and military authorities.

In 1977, while he was serving as defense minister, Brady visited Lima and made friends with General Morales Bermudez, as well as with other ranking Peruvian military leaders. This fact, in addition to his diplomatic ability, makes Brady a very apt choice for an envoy to the Peruvian Government to overcome the tension between the two countries as a result of the espionage incidents involving five Chilean officers and one civilian.

However, the Lima press received Brady today with harsh editorials--which in some cases could be considered severe--against the Santiago regime and the performance of its diplomats in this capital.

Chilean Ambassador Francisco Bulnes returned unexpectedly to Chile 2 days ago. There are rumors here that he and all other important officials who served with him will resign.

Good Relations Will Continue

PA311745Y Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 2315 GMT 30 Dec 78 PA

[Excerpts] Lima, 30 Dec (LATIN)--Gen Hernan Brady, Chilean President Augusto Pinochet's security adviser, said today that the recent espionage incidents involving Chilean citizens will not seriously affect relations between Peru and Chile. Brady nonetheless admitted that the relations between the two neighboring countries had been temporarily affected as a result of the expulsion from Peru of six Chileans accused of espionage. Talking to newsmen during an unexpected 24-hour visit to Lima, Brady added that President Pinochet had asked him to present his personal apology to the Peruvian Government.

According to Brady, both Peruvian Defense and Prime Minister Gen Oscar Molina Pallochia and Gen Pedro Richter Prada, president of the armed forces joint command, had accepted his government's apology and explanation. Our two countries managed to establish good relations, which were affected because a handful of persons decided on unfortunate initiatives, he commented.

According to General Brady, Gen Juan Paulo Gonzalez, Chile's third-ranking air force officer, had also arrived in Lima with a letter for Peruvian Air Force chief Brig Luis Galindo Chapman from Gen Fernando Matthei, the air force representative in the Chilean military junta. The letter is believed to be connected with the case of the four Chilean diplomats expelled from Peru 1 month ago under charges of receiving secret information from a retired Peruvian air force officer. The officer, who is said to be a sergeant, was court-martialed and sentenced to death, but reportedly the sentence has not been carried out.

Gonzalez, who was Chile's aviation attache in Peru until January 1978, returned today to Santiago, while Brady went on to Panama.

Further Details

PA300320Y Paris AFP in Spanish 0152 GMT 30 Dec 78 PA

[Excerpts] Lima, 29 Dec (AFP)--The spokesman of the information services enterprise, an official government organ, tonight formally denied reports of the execution of former Sgt Julio Alfonso Vargas Garayar, who was accused of treason to the fatherland for supplying information on the structure of the Peruvian Air Force to Chilean spies.

According to official information obtained by AFP today, Vargas Garayar surrendered to authorities. He said that he tried to obtain money from Chilean officials to relieve the burden of family economic problems, but that "when they demanded that I proceed under the threat of revealing my actions, I reported my offense to my superiors, which led to the exposure of the espionage network which I ingenuously helped."

HAVANA TELEVISION REPORTS WALDHEIM IN MEXICO CITY

FL030146Y Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 0100 GMT 3 Jan 79 FL

[Text] UN Secretary General Kurt Waldheim is visiting Mexico City where he was received by President Jose Lopez-Portillo. In Mexico Waldheim will undertake a broad program of activities including visits to the UN offices in the Mexican capital and with President Lopez-Portillo.

KIDNAPED BUSINESSMAN RELEASED BY CAPTORS

PA311651Y Paris AFP in Spanish 2114 GMT 30 Dec 78 PA

[Text] Mexico City, 30 Dec (AFP)--It has been learned here that a rich businessman, Raul Garza Cantu, was released today after being held for 50 days by the self-styled People's Armed Revolutionary Branch [Brazo Armado Revolucionario del Pueblo]. The businessman had to pay 10 million Mexican pesos (approximately $500,000) in ransom.

Garza Cantu was kidnaped by four individuals in a northern province on 8 November.

CENTRAL BANK ANNOUNCES FOREIGN TRADE FIGURES

PA292307Y Madrid EFE in Spanish 1007 GMT 29 Dec 78 PA

[Text] Mexico City, 29 Dec (EFE)--The United States remained Mexico's leading international customer and supplier in 1978, the (Central) Bank of Mexico reported here on Thursday.

The bank reported that during the first 9 months of the year Mexico exported products worth $3,840,811,000 and imported $4,995,972,000--for a deficit of $1,155,161,000.

Of this total, the source added, the United States sold $2,890,001,000 to Mexico and bought $1,178,899,000, for a loss of $427,961,000. [figures as received]

Trade with the EEC resulted in a loss of $757,948,000 for Mexico from January to September. In economic relations with the EEC, the source said, Mexican exports totaled only $193,293,000, while imports totaled $951,241,000.

Trade with the LAFTA countries provided a surplus of $65,299,000. Brazil purchased $116,385,000 worth of Mexican goods and sold $95,044,000 to Mexico. Argentina's trade operations totaled $63,246,000 and $22.5 million respectively, while Venezuela's totaled $23,381,000 and $64,584,000.

Mexico also reported profits from its trade with the Central American Common Market which purchased (?$102,260,000) worth of Mexican goods and sold $5,597,000 worth of its own products.

The Bank of Mexico added that, from January to September 1978, the country reported a deficit of $335,353,000--with purchases from Mexico totaling (?$63,788,000) and sales totaling (?$399,141,000).

Mexico exported $11,672,000 to CEMA and imported $25,094,000, that is a deficit of $13,422,000.

Trade with the European Free Trade Association recorded a deficit of $126,648,000 for Mexico.

The source said that for the first time there was a surplus in trade with Spain as Mexican sales totaled $78,032,000 and purchases totaled $71,951,000.

JOURNALIST COMMENTS ON COST OF CUBA'S AFRICAN ADVENTURE

PA301600Y Mexico City EL HERALDO DE MEXICO in Spanish 20 Dec 78 p 17 PA

[Article by Herminio Portell Vila: "Vietnam in Africa--Crushing Cost of the Cuban Adventure"]

[Text] Of course Castro knows very well that he has U.S. protection against any armed attack by anticommunist Cubans, not only if the attack originates in U.S. territory, but also if it is launched from a third country. That was the commitment accepted in October 1962 by deceased President John F. Kennedy and fulfilled to this day by all of his successors.

Despite that guarantee, Castro is losing men all over Africa. The Cuban foreign minister headed the group of officials who depositied flowers on the tombs of Cuban soldiers killed in Ethiopia. There are two large cemeteries for Cubans in Luanda, Angola. Other Cubans have been buried in Cabinda, while still others, already wounded, died in several East Berlin hospitals. Cuban ships have occasionally taken cargos of cadavers to communist Cuba. The injured and the invalid are everywhere.

A total of 50,000 CUBAN SOLDIERS AND TECHNICIANS are in Africa. In order to keep them there, a logistics effort is needed at the rear involving between 10,000 and 15,000 men and women who work inside communist Cuba for those who are in Africa.

Several thousand sailors and Cuban aviation personnel work for the war in Africa. Food, medicine, clothing and shoes, normally very scarce in communist Cuba, are detoured to Africa in large amounts, thus leaving even less in the country for the Cubans.

Of course, the Soviet Union spends a lot to keep the Cuban mercenaries in Africa, but communist Cuba is the one supplying the dead and the injured.

Two upcoming attacks, one against Eritrea and the other against Rhodesia, require the sending of more Cuban soldiers to Africa. But who will cut the sugarcane? Castro and the Russians do not seem to be concerned over the possibility of an uprising in Cuba with support from abroad. They know very well that the United States will do everything in its power to prevent an internal uprising or an attack from abroad.

Cuba's economic situation is very bad. Those who are in Africa do not cut sugarcane, or plant rice and malanga, or grow coffee and tobacco, or work in the factories or shipyards.

The cost of the African adventure is crushing. How much longer can the Cuban Vietnam in Africa continue?

BRIEFS

PURCHASE OF U.S. TRACTORS--Mexico City, 20 Dec (EFE)--Agrarian Reform Secretary Antonio Toledo Corro today reported that the Mexican Government will buy only 10,000 of the 60,000 tractors that were to be purchased from the United States. The 10,000 tractors will arrive over the next 2 years. Meanwhile, six tractor factories in the country are preparing to expand their installations and begin producing the needed tractors. Toledo Corro said that the import and national manufacture of the tractors is part of the plan to mechanize the agricultural sector in order to increase production. [Madrid EFE in Spanish 0210 GMT 21 Dec 78 PA]

FSLN MILITARY BULLETIN REPORTS ON PANAMANIAN UNIT

PA291653Y Panama City Radio Hogar in Spanish 1230 GMT 29 Dec 78 PA [From the "Radioperiodico Conciencia" program by Milciades Ortiz]

[Text] This is a military bulletin from the Sandinist National Liberation Front [FSLN] being sent from Nicaragua as a special and exclusive service for the "Radioperiodico Conciencia" program. Persons who recently arrived from Nicaragua and who brought Dr Hugo Spadafora's article published in CRITICA also brought me a military bulletin covering activities carried out by the FSLN from 1 to 25 December.

According to the bulletin, Somoza's army lost 416 soldiers in December while the Sandinists lost only 22 of their men. The bulletin also reports that the Sandinists destroyed two helicopters, four combat planes, two PT boats patrolling Nicaraguan rivers, two trucks loaded with soldiers and an armored tank. The bulletin says that a total of 34 battles were fought between Sandinists and Somozists during the first 25 days of December. The longest battles included one that lasted 4 and 1/2 hours and another that went for almost 16 hours.

Many Panamanians from the Victoriano Lorenzo Brigade participated in this battle, which lasted more than half a day--among them Commander Hugo Spadafora, just another soldier fighting for the liberation of Latin American nations. The battle which lasted 16 hours included the occupation of a military post for 16 hours despite attacks launched by Somoza's troops to regain it.

I also have been informed that two columns of Sandinists from northern Nicaragua, near the border with Honduras, have advanced 20 km into Nicaraguan territory controlled by Somoza. This area is subject to constant bombing by Somoza's air force, but the Sandinists are firmly holding it, although they do not have as many modern weapons as dictator Somoza has. With regard to these bombings, "Radioperiodico Conciencia" has received exclusive information that Somoza is using napalm bombs containing incendiary gelatin which has been proscribed by the Geneva Convention but which nevertheless some countries are using, such as the United States in Vietnam and now Somoza in Nicaragua. It is the same thing. Most of the bombings are being carried out near the San Juan River, a jungle area full of Sandinists who are struggling to overthrow the Nicaraguan tyrant.

Regarding the Panamanian volunteers in Nicaragua, it has been officially reported that no one has been killed. Dr Spadafora's article written 10 days ago and published yesterday is a sociopolitical essay explaining the reasons for the Victoriano Lorenzo Brigade made up of Panamanians who volunteered to fight next to the Sandinists. Dr Spadafora's article was received here in his own handwriting and has cleared any doubt among some circles in our country which thought that former health vice minister, Dr Spadafora, had been killed in the Nicaraguan jungle.

SPADAFORA CLAIMS SANDINISTS WERE TO HELP ATTACK CANAL

PA291628Y Panama City CRITICA in Spanish 28 Dec 78 pp 27, 12 PA

[Article by Hugo Spadafora: "A Brief Political and Historical Analysis of the Brigade"]

[Text] The Victoriano Lorenzo Brigade, far from being the product of "an adventure" as some may think, or the result of the thoughtless action of "guerrillas," as others believe, or the consequence of a simple impulse of some "sleepy romantics" as others claim, is the true expression of deep-rooted Panamanian sentiments, and as such it can be analyzed from several points of view.

Now that 3 months have passed since its formation and now that it has been hardened in battle, we can state with all certainty and with great satisfaction and pride deriving from accomplishment, that the brigade is an act of faith, a testimony of gratitude, a warning and, above all, a genuine symbol and evidence of the well-established sentiments of Panamanian unity founded on the principles of national liberation.

The brigade is an act of faith based on the highest principles of solidarity among people struggling against foreign domination and the oppression of tyrants. It means faith in Latin American brotherhood and in the Bolivarian ideal--which had its highest expression in the Amphictyonic Congress convoked by the liberator in our country. Today, when demogogery, conformism and indifference undermine the masses' confidence in Bolivar's dream, we have to say "halt" and we have to prove with facts that Bolivar's torch is not extinguished. No. Bolivar did not plow in water. Our brigade proclaims this every day in the heat of battle.

The brigade is the testimony of gratitude from us Panamanians to the people of the world, especially to the Latin Americans, for the effective and solid help that they have always offered us in the difficult nationalist struggle to retrieve our occupied territory and our sovereignty, compromised by foreign domination. Very few Panamanians are aware of one fact that makes our initiative more valid. On the day that the U. S. Senate was voting on the ratification of the Torrijos-Carter treaty a group of 20 experienced young guerrillas belonging to the Sandinist National Liberation Front [FSLN] was in Panama prepared to go into battle alongside a large and properly organized and trained Panamanian contingent, ready to initiate an armed struggle in the Canal Zone on that very day in the event the treaty was rejected. If I had known then of this gesture--I became aware of it after the brigade had already joined the FSLN--perhaps the Victoriano Lorenzo Brigade would have been created earlier than September. In any event, that Sandinist gesture, the details of which will some day be known, gives more historic validity and value to the Panamanian Brigade because gratitude is a quality appropriate to a noble people and the Victoriano Lorenzo Brigade is sealing with blood the noble character of the Panamanian people who know how to reciprocate the solidarity and the generous aid received from all the people of the world.

The Victoriano Lorenzo Brigade is a warning to whoever may try to trample on our national and social rights and to those who do not respect our sovereignty. If approximately 100 Panamanians--after overcoming thousands of obstacles--have now crossed Central America to incorporate themselves spontaneously and voluntarily into heroic Sandinist forces, how many would not take this action if we ever had to repulse foreigners or to overthrow a tyrant on our own soil. The valuable fighting experience that our brigade is gaining in Sandino's fatherland would enhance the strength of all those Panamanians who at a given moment may decide that it is necessary to create a national liberation army to fight interventionist foreigners or an oppressive tyrant--may this moment never come. And looking into the future, our actions must also serve as an example to our children, to the next generation, so that no one will create illusions about Panamanians allowing foreign occupation troops in our country after the year 2000. This is the historic, political warning that our brigade represents.

The Victoriano Lorenzo Brigade is a true symbol and evidence of the well-established sentiments of Panamanian unity founded on the principles of national liberation. This statement might appear as extravagant and presumptuous, but what a great truth it constitutes! Perhaps it would be necessary to live and share with us the experiences of the brigade to fully understand it. I confess with great emotion that having realized this fact--and having contributed to its promotion--has been the most valuable experience that I have obtained from the formation and activities of the brigade. This fact alone would have been enough to justify all the risks and all the pains and troubles that it imposes on wives, children and parents. [paragraph continues]

We have seen the rebirth of trust in the latent forces of the Panamanian masses. We have seen how a group that is heterogenous because of the origin, education and political ideas if its members is united around a great and just cause. We have felt our hearts filled with trust in a promising future for Panama, something that we will have only through the united and organized efforts of the masses. All these sentiments and convictions arise from very real and not utopian situations.

The brigade is composed of Panamenists who only a few years ago were antigovernment guerrillas of Piedra Candela and Rio Sereno, communists from various organizations and factions (the People's Party, Guaykucho and so forth) who bitterly fight among themselves in Panama, dedicated Torrijists who are identified with the Panamanian revolutionary process, former National Guardsmen who in the past fought the Panamenist guerrillas, liberals, socialists and so forth; atheists, Catholics, Adventists, Buddhists and so forth; government followers, government opponents, workers, businessmen, peasants, intellectuals, students, professionals and so forth; blacks, whites, indians, mulattoes, half-breeds and so forth; and men and women from the nine provinces and from the San Blas territory. In other words, the brigade is a mosaic that truly reflects the composition and structure of our nation, a true cross section of the popular mass. All the members of the brigade share the same pains and happiness, dangers and joy, and live with a common and profound sense of unbiased national and revolutionary unity. This alone is worth all the vice ministers of the world!

The movement for the national liberation of Guinea-Bissau, under the inspiration and leadership of Amilcar Cabral, adopted the slogan "Unity and Struggle" to bring to a happy end its struggle for independence from Portuguese colonialism, and more important yet, to efficiently struggle against hunger, ignorance and the centuries-old backwardness that suffocates the African people. That is the way. Without unity, no people can overcome the terrible ills that feed on the suffering people of the Third World. Panama cannot escape this historic fact. It is for this reason that the divisions and lack of political education--with the resulting corruption--that we have inherited from the cheap political parties system impedes the true progress of the dispossessed masses. For this reason, any specific revolutionary action that promotes the national unity and political awareness of the Panamanian people is of great value.

Only by looking at the Victoriano Lorenzo Brigade in this historic and political context can its true importance be realized. For this reason, regardless of how many people may criticize us, we will calmly await the only verdict that interests us: that of the people, that of history.

I began writing this yesterday in a Sandinist guerrilla camp and I am concluding it today, 18 December, during a visit to the group that the day before yesterday attacked Penas Blancas. I cannot conclude without paying homage to the brave Panamanian Brigade fighters. Panamanian mortar squads, with heavy 50-caliber, 30-caliber and MG machineguns, squad leaders and riflemen who are here, only a few hundred meters away from the enemy--like those in other columns and groups of the southern front--are furthering the good name of Panama. Some day we will be able to make known the valuable help that the Panamanians are giving to the FSLN on the battlefields. Since many members of the brigade already had war experience--including several former National Guard veterans and former guerrillas, as I previously stated--and as a result of the rigorous and selective training the brigade went through, the Panamanians have demonstrated from the very beginning that their participation in this war is much more than symbolic and marginal. The generous unselfishness and courage that they have demonstrated greatly belie those skeptics or cynics who believe that we Panamanians are a nation of swingers, incapable of making sacrifices and noble gestures and of working for big and important causes.

The intelligent reader can understand that it is not strange that after living with the Victoriano Lorenzo Brigade for 3 months away from Panamanian soil I feel more Panamanian than ever.

OVER 1 BILLION BALBOAS BUDGETED FOR 1979

PA011401Y Panama City LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA in Spanish 30 Dec 78 pp 1, 18 PA

[All figures as published]

[Text] Presidential Palace--The 1979 national revenues and expenditures budget totaling 648.7 million balboas was approved yesterday at a cabinet meeting.

The public sector investments budget, a total of almost 395 million balboas, was also approved.

Regarding the investments budget of the public sector, which includes the ministries and the decentralized agencies, the actual amount approved is 394.9 million balboas which will be financed as follows: the central government will contribute 78.5 million; decentralized government agencies, 106.7 million; funds from international official credit agencies, 139.4 million; and revenue from other sources, such as the educational tax, interest on student loans, credit from suppliers [credito de los proveedores] and others, 70.3 million balboas.

Of the 394.9 million balboa investment budget, 106.1 million will be allocated to the ministries and 288.8 million to the decentralized agencies and other public enterprises as follows: 72.4 million for electrification projects; 65.7 million for the transportation sector; 60.3 million for the agricultural and livestock sector; 25.4 million for health; 24.1 million for education; 21.6 million for telecommunications; 16.9 million for tourism; 47.5 million for housing; 31.8 million for commerce and industries and 29.1 million for other sectors.

A significant aspect of the central government's operating budget is that, even with the austerity plan imposed by the national government, the budget satisfies the needs of our growing student sector by allocating funds for the appointment of all teachers required for the coming school year as well as [funds needed for] the fulfillment of all legal norms regarding promotions, salary increases and changes of category of both high school and grade school teachers.

In the health sector the budget guarantees the fulfillment of the agreements reached with the medical and paramedical groups as well as the appointment of new doctors from both local and foreign schools as provided by law. The budget also substantially increases the allocations for medicines and foodstuffs of the Santo Tomas and national psychiatric hospitals, fulfilling a pledge made by the president of the republic during a recent visit to these two health centers.

Road maintenance will be a priority project in the transportation sector.

The national budget also reflects the government's interest in intensifying the campaign begun in 1978 to halt contraband. Therefore, the Finance Ministry is granted the necessary instruments to reinforce the customs vigilance system throughout the nation.

Regarding the Commerce and Industries Ministry, the budget provides for the strengthening of administrative structures to revitalize a national loan program for small businesses.

Regarding collective bargaining negotiations which will be resumed in January, the Labor and Social Welfare Ministry has been granted new labor mediating personnel as well as facilities in which to carry out this vital task.

In the revenues and expenditures budget, 274.2 million balboas are earmarked for the operating expenses of the ministries, including salary increases for public employees who earn less than 300 balboas per month beginning in January 1979; 68.9 million in common transfers of funds for subsidies to decentralized agencies and other expenses; 78.5 million for the public sector investments program; 10.9 million to pay the 13th month bonus to public officials; 108.3 million to pay the national debt and 48.6 million for refinancing the national debt.

This budget will be financed by an estimated 462.3 million balboas in regular income and 186.3 million in capital income. [ingresos de capital]

The breakdown of revenues and expenditures and public investment budgets will be published in the official gazette as required by law.

BRIEFS

NEW CONEP BOARD--The National Council of Private Enterprise (CONEP) has elected its new board of directors as follows: Jaime R. Correa, president; Dulcidio Gonzalez, vice president; Arturo Arauz, secretary; and Alfonso Herrera y Franco, treasurer. The new board will direct CONEP from 1 January to 30 June 1979. [Panama City LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA in Spanish 31 Dec 78 p 1 PA]

COSTA RICA

NICARAGUAN NATIONAL GUARD CLASHES WITH FSLN NEAR BORDER

PA021338Y San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1200 GMT 2 Jan 79 PA

[Text] New clashes have been reported near the northern border. The weekend calm was disturbed before noon yesterday when the sound of mortars and machinegun fire was heard at Penas Blancas, but in Nicaraguan territory. The shooting was intense but brief, a Costa Rican Civil Guard officer reported, stating that everything seems to indicate that this was another instance of the Sandinist National Liberation Front's strategy of harassing the National Guard which has been followed by the guerrillas in recent weeks.

Meanwhile, the border remains closed and the Civil Guard is closely following any unusual situation in the area.

Border Briefly Reopened

PA030245Y San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 0100 GMT 3 Jan 79 PA

[Text] The deputy foreign minister was pleased with the reopening of the border with Nicaragua. The partial reopening of the border with Nicaragua has pleased government officials, said Deputy Foreign Minister Bernd Niehaus. He said that the Nicaraguan Government had decided to permit the transit of persons and trucks loaded with merchandise.

Nicaragua opened the border about noon today and closed it again at 1600.

A total of 250 persons crossed to Nicaragua today, the majority of them Nicaraguans who had waited in La Cruz for an opportunity to visit their relatives. Several trucks with merchandise also crossed into Nicaragua and other Central American countries. Only 50 persons came into Costa Rica and no trucks with merchandise were allowed to cross from Nicaragua. This means that the blockade of raw materials for Costa Rica is being maintained.

EL SALVADOR

DOMINICAN PAPER PUBLISHES SALVADORAN GUERRILLA COMMUNIQUE

PA021942Y Madrid EFE in Spanish 1521 GMT 2 Jan 79 PA

[Text] Santo Domingo, 2 Jan (EFE)--The LISTIN DIARIO newspaper today published two pages of a Salvadoran revolutionary armed forces declaration in accordance with a condition set for the release of Takakasu Suzuki, a Japanese businessman kidnaped while residing in San Salvador.

The newspaper's editorial department explained that it accepted the demand for humanitarian reasons although the "Rumbos" publicity agency, which represents the kidnpaed Japanese executive's firm, has promised to pay for the publication.

The declaration consists of long statements by Reynaldo Cruz Menjivar and Francisco Baltazar Campos Mendoza, both Salvadorans, relating the tortures and abuses experienced in their country's prisons. Both are in asylum in the Venezuelan Embassy in San Salvador.

NICARAGUA

CLASHES REPORTED BETWEEN SANDINISTS, NATIONAL GUARD

PA021649Y Paris AFP in Spanish 1616 GMT 2 Jan 79 PA

[Text] Managua, 2 Jan (AFP)--The Nicaraguan press today described clashes between the National Guard and Sandinist guerrillas on Monday as a new outbreak of insurrection. Fourteen persons were killed during the clashes.

The press reports indicate that seven civilians and two soldiers were killed during clashes in Managua and five guerrillas died in confrontations in a rural area near the city of Esteli in northern Nicaragua.

The two guardsmen, a private and a sergeant, were killed during an ambush of a patrol in the Las Americas neighborhood of Managua. The seven civilians died in Managua during the National Guard's pursuit of those responsible for the ambush.

Clashes between armed civilians and military patrols also occurred in the neighborhoods of La Fuente, Nicarao, Wafpan, Open Tres and others. An attempt to attack a police station in the Las Sancudas sector of southwest Managua was thwarted.

In the interior of the country five guerrillas were killed near Esteli when a military patrol discovered a Sandinist camp.

In the area known as San Pancho in the border region with Costa Rica, army planes machinegunned the area after Sandinist guerrillas fired on a reconaissance plane. No casualties on either side were reported in that clash.

FSLN FACTION CLAIMS RESPONSIBILITY FOR KILLING SOLDIER

PA301211Y Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1841 GMT 29 Dec 78 PA

[Excerpt] Managua, 29 Dec (ACAN-EFE)--The "Proletarian" faction of the Sandinist National Liberation Front [FSLN] claimed responsibility here today for the death of soldier Jose Enrique Arroliga, who was killed Wednesday night. A "war communique" of this guerrilla group--which is seeking the establishment of a popular democracy, the liberation of the country and a socialist government in Nicaragua--confirmed that the execution of the 28-year-old National Guard private was carried out by the Fatima Georgi Morales Lara Brigade.

Four youths, including a woman, armed with pistols and with their faces half covered with handkerchiefs, arrived at the soldier's modest home in the eastern sector of Managua and shot him several times.

The revolutionary report notes that the operation was carried out on orders from the General Staff of the "Proletarian FSLN" after it had tried Private Arroliga as a henchman and for participating in the army massacres in Leon in September and in Penas Blancas later on.

According to today's issue of the semiofficial newspaper NOVEDADES, Arroliga was killed in front of his wife and his twin sons, who are minors.

The same squad, together with the "Victor Picado" squad, killed Raul Sisceros early this week. Sisceros resisted an attack with his weapon. The guerrillas were not hurt in the attack.

Disclaims Responsibility for Holdups

PA021956Y San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1730 GMT 2 Jan 78 PA

[Text] The Sandinist National Liberation Front [FSLN] has charged that robberies of private businesses in Nicaragua are the result of Somoza's machinations. The FSLN warned that the holdups of small stores and enterprises attributed to Sandinists are conducted by Somozists and not Sandinists.

The FSLN General Staff said this morning that men, probably paid by the Somoza Government, are robbing small stores and businesses and attributing these actions to Sandinists, which is false. The FSLN General Staff went on to clearly state that its forces are not responsible for the holdups of small stores, firms and other businesses owned by legitimate workers since this type of operation is staged only against big capitalists who have amassed their fortunes by exploiting Nicaraguan workers. The FSLN General Staff warned that it intends to execute those persons who are profiting from the revolution.

The Sandinist General Staff has also alerted international newsmen not to believe certain types of unofficial information. It said that official information will carry the well-known Sandinist seal. It added that armed struggle is carried out by the Sandinist Proletarian Front, composed of fighters carefully selected for their combative spirit and decision to fight, and the popular brigades. The popular brigades are broad, militia-type organizations of patriots determined to fight against the military dictatorship.

NATIONAL GUARD REPORTS DISCOVERY OF ARMS CACHE

PA300454Y Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0340 GMT 30 Dec 78 PA

[Communique No 85 of the Legal and Public Relations Office of the Nicaraguan National Guard issued on 29 December 1978--read by announcer]

[Text] The Legal and Public Relations Office of the Nicaraguan National Guard informs the citizens that [National Guardsmen] captured Marcos Zapata (Arets) while pursuing a group of persons who stole a distribution truck of a Managua brewery at approximately 1030 on 20 December. He led authorities to a place known as the caves of Santa Cruz and the ranch El Coledar in Diriamba Jurisdiction, Carazo Department. The following weapons were found: A 9-mm Smith and Wesson machinegun, an M-1 30-caliber Garand rifle, 3 [word indistinct] 7.62-gauge, 2 M-1 30-caliber carbines, a 30-30 Winchester rifle, a 9-mm [word indistinct] Walther model [word indistinct], a 45-caliber Colt pistol, a 16-caliber rifle, a 12-caliber sawed-off shotgun, 2 22-caliber Remington rifles, 2 shells for 9-mm Smith and Wesson machineguns, 16 clips for Garand rifles, 9 shells for FAL rifles, a [word indistinct] for FAL rifles, 11 type [word indistinct] chambers for carbines, 2 magazines for 45-caliber pistols, 200 M-2 30-caliber cartridges, [as heard] 281 7.62-caliber cartridges, 1,212 30-caliber Mauser cartridges, 18 9-mm cartridges, 12 25-caliber cartridges, 42 12-caliber rifle cartridges, 3 dynamite sticks, 4 electronic detonation devices, pamphlets with (?abundant subversive literature), and 2 (PVC) water pipes where they hid the weapons.

There were no casualties in the clash between the authorities and the persons guarding the arms cache.

[Signed] Col Aquiles Aranda Escobar, chief of the Legal and Public Relations Office of the Nicaraguan National Guard

RAUL CASTRO ADDRESSES ANNIVERSARY OF REVOLUTION PARADE

Description of Parade

FL021734 [Editorial Report FL] Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish at 1459 GMT on 2 January carries live coverage of military parade being held at Jose Marti Plaza de la Revolucion in Havana City to mark the 20th anniversary of the triumph of the revolution. Army Gen Raul Castro is the announced main speaker.

As coverage begins, army Gen Raul Castro rides in a limousine to the front of the reviewing stand and, after requesting permission from President Fidel Castro to begin the proceedings, pays homage to the dead and orders taps. Army Gen Raul Castro, accompanied by the chief of the troops, drives to the different units to greet their members. After reviewing the troops, army Gen Raul Castro makes a statement of greetings to all Cuban military.

The announcer describes posters and pictures on facades of buildings surrounding the plaza. Staff announcer Manolo Ortega introduces army Gen Castro, who comes to the podium and begins speaking at 1515 GMT. Raul Castro pays homage to the fatherland's forefathers and those who have fallen throughout the struggle for independence. As the camera pans the buildings surrounding the plaza, next to a picture of Marx, Engels and Lenin, a sign reads "To Continue Advancing on the Path of Socialism."

As Raul Castro attacks actions by the PRC in collusion with the United States, the members of the PRC delegation are seen leaving the reviewing stand at 1528 GMT. Immediately after the ending of Raul Castro's speech at 1548 GMT, the national anthem is played and an artillery unit fires a salvo. The parade begins with a Mambi cavalry unit, as a speech made by Fidel Castro some years ago is heard on the loudspeakers.

The announcer reports that the military parade is presided over by Fidel Castro, PCC Politburo members and other party leaders, ministers and vice ministers, military chiefs, members of the diplomatic corps and guests of the government. Following the cavalry, Brig Gen Leopoldo Cintras Frias, chief of the troops, leads the units of the Revolutionary Armed Forces [FAR] passing in review. A drum corps of the Camilo Cienfuegos military schools opens the parade, followed by an infantry unit. Next comes a group of former members of the rebel army, followed by a group of students from the Maximo Gomez FAR military academy. Then, two batallions of students of the Gen Antonio Maceo school of combined arms pass in review.

Following are units of the Mariel Naval Academy, Camilo Cienfuegos Artillery School, Camilo Cienfuegos military schools, Central and Eastern armies, Youth Labor Army, marines--the announcer says they are parading for the first time--paratroopers. Antiaircraft Defense and Revolutionary Air Force [DAFAR] and revolutionary national militias. Following the ground troops, a formation of helicopters flies over the reviewing stand.

The motorized vehicles begin passing, led by a formation of jeeps carrying paratroopers in battle dress. Immediately following, a group of PTR600 armored vehicles, PN-21 rocket-firing trucks and 130 mm heavy guns pass in review. The light tank-troop carriers, T-62 tanks and Zirka motorized antiaircraft missile units pass before the stand. Naval rockets come next, followed by DAFAR missile units. Then rain begins to come down.

The announcer reports that MiG-23's are making a pass over the stand. Despite the heavy rain, no one leaves the reviewing stand and the motorized vehicles continue to parade. At 1621 GMT, the announcer reports that the military parade has concluded. Television coverage ends at 1622 GMT.

Raul Castro Speech

FL021628Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1515 GMT 2 Jan 79 FL

[Speech by Revolutionary Armed Forces [FAR] Minister Army Gen Raul Castro at military parade held at Jose Marti Plaza de la Revolucion on 2 January 1979 to mark 20th anniversary of the triumph of the revolution--live]

[Text] Comrades: At this setting, which so intimately links the last two decades of our history, the Revolutionary Armed Forces joyfully display their combat flags in honor of the 20th anniversary of the triumph of the revolution and pay a tribute of fervent respect, affection and loyalty to the patriotic and revolutionary tradition of the Cuban people, the ideology of the working class, the cause of socialism and communism, and the Communist Party of Cuba and its guide and leader, our dear Commander in Chief and Comrade Fidel Castro. [applause]

Eigty-five years ago, in considering the responsibilities then imposed on the Cuban revolutionary movement, geographic characteristics and historic continental and universal situation, Jose Marti predicted: Whoever rebels in Cuba today rebels for all times.

Today we pay homage to the memory of the founders and those who left us a legacy of the fertile treasure of experiences which constitutes the most valued treasure of the fatherland: revolutionary intransigency, anti-imperialism, heroism for the sake of national independence and social justice. In the same manner, we pay homage to those who responded to Marti's call and, in their time, rose and projected themselves to the future with their political wisdom, audacity, military genius, honor to the fatherland and firmness of principles. With such devotion and gratitude, as we commemorate the 20th anniversary of the people's victory of 1 January, we pay homage to the brilliant thinkers and admirable revolutionaries who discovered the laws of social development, created the theory of scientific socialism and devoted their last breath to the emancipation of the oppressed and exploited. That is how the precursors of socialism in our country and all the fighters who sustained the anti-imperialist cause and gave their lives to complete the historic task of Cespedes, Agramonte, Gomez, Maceo and Marti--a task frustrated by the brutal intervention of the then emerging North American imperialism--live in the hearts of Cuban workers.

With this understanding of the historic process and that spirit of justice, over the past few days our people have remembered the battles waged by the rebel army, the revolutionary strike which paralyzed the country and liquidated the maneuvers with which the Yankee imperialists--through their embassy and lackeys--tried to frustrate the people's triumph. They also have remembered the tense and glorious work to advance, defend and consolidate the revolutionary process and, at the same time, fulfill our internationalist duties which mark the heroic history of our revolution in the course of these 20 years.

The agrarian reform; nationalization laws; literacy campaign; the acute ideological and political confrontation with imperialism and reaction, which in such a decisive manner contributed to develop the revolutionary awareness of the masses; the creation of the Revolutionary National Militia, and later the Revolutionary Armed Forces Ministry and Interior Ministry; the victorious struggle against bandits, infiltration, sabotage and assassination plots; the proclamation of the socialist nature of the revolution. Giron; the threat of nuclear extermination in October 1962; the defeat of the political isolation and criminal intention of making us surrender through starvation; the socio-economic, educational and cultural transformations; the industrial expansion and increasing economic growth, eradication of racial discrimination and the constant advances in the struggle for the equality of women; the construction of the party until celebration of the first congress and the subsequent effort to fulfill its agreements and resolutions;

the successive strengthening of the Union of Young Communists, labor movement and mass organizations; the establishment of the people's government organs, the National Assembly and improvement of the state structure; the people's virtually unanimous approval of the socialist constitution; the constant modernization and raising of the country's defensive capability; the successful fulfillment of the missions of fraternal assistance to the People's Republic of Angola and socialist Ethiopia; the growing assistance and scientific and technical cooperation with numerous progressive and revolutionary countries; the strengthening of international positions and prestige of Cuba in the international arena up to the successful celebration of the 11th World Youth and Student Festival and Cuba's recent selection as host of the sixth summit conference of the nonalined countries movement.

These are some of the events which show the complex and difficult road gone through these 20 years by our working people; and by simply naming them it generates legitimate revolutionary pride and, without the least concession to chauvinism which always is niggardly and reactionary, the pride of being Cuban, of being part of a people such as ours, and of being fortunate enough to have experienced this productive phase of our history when the glorious flag of our fathers has been raised to its highest, freest and most sovereign point. [applause] That flag today is symbolic of a people who, with their blood and sweat, talent and will, are building the most advanced social system known by history in the immediate neighborhood of the world center of imperialism; who are living, working and studying with optimism in a country with scarce natural resources, subjected to a criminal blockade that includes the prohibition of medicine and foodstuffs; and who are advancing in a climate of dignity, authentic liberty and austerity where the satisfaction of their vital needs is not subject to the imbalance and inequalities that give rise to the voracity of the capitalist monopolies, with a standard of living that is superior to that of some developed capitalist countries in such aspects as public health and education.

On other occasions and from this same tribute, we have explained--at the request of the party and government leadership--our conviction that in order to continue advancing within the complex world economic situation and go forward and achieve long-lasting advances in the building of our economy, it is necessary that, above all, we sustain ourselves on the principal factors that explain the consolidation of the revolutionary government in Cuba and the defeat of the many and unscrupulous efforts made, one after another, by five North American administrations, from Eisenhower to Ford. These factors are: First, the internal unity of the party based on democratic centralism and purity of the principles of Marxism-Leninism; second, the unity of the people around the party and the maximum leader of the revolution, Comrade Fidel; third, the unity of all Cubans with the socialist, communist and, first of all, the great fatherland of Lenin, the Soviet Union. [prolonged applause]

From a political and ideological standpoint, these factors represent the essence of the platform of principles on which our party's domestic and foreign policy is based. For some bougeois liberals, these formulations correspond to what the propaganda of ideological centers of imperialism label as orthodox. We have no doubt that some politicians most concerned with being excluded from such classification [resulting] from the clarity of their positions consider the language of the Cuban Revolution somewhat hard and antiquated. But the important question, of course, is not a matter of semantics. Many of those who began proposing idiomatic arguments and options intended to evade the class basis of the contradictions and differences between socialism and capitalism on the world scale have then come to repeat the vilest anti-Soviet and anticommunist hoaxes to end up, in practice, assuming positions which involve positions of principle, if not open capitulation.

On the other hand, imperialism is making every effort to divide the revolutionary movement, establish new alliances and exhaust all its possibilities for pressure, intimidation and bribery.

The ability of the imperialists to discover who can be seduced and bought, in the short and long term, for a plate of beans must be recognized. It is also a fact that in recent years imperialism has made new allies. It has converted the supermen of the revolution-- as the mandarins in power in China pretended to be in their times-- into traitors of their people and of the world revolutionary movement, and the apparent heirs to the Peking throne have ended being just that. The fact that the U.S. Government has reestablished official ties with China only after the latter became a generous collaborator of the CIA and of the South African regime with logistic support for the braggarts of UNITA in Angola; encouraged Somalia's aggression against Ethiopia; provoked, threatens and attacks abusively and criminally heroic Vietnam; contributes to sustaining the precarious Pinochet regime; grossly slanders Cuba and advises the North American government to maintain the Guantanamo naval base against the will of the Cuban people and government and not to lift the blockade is, of course, action that reveals the degrading attitude of the imperialists. While it encourages new acts of aggression against our country, it associates itself with imperialist circles which, by returning to the cold war, want to artificially stimulate their economies, avert the internal class struggle and lessen contradictions among capitalist countries. Lastly, it enters into strategic alliances against the Soviet Union and also constitutes the latest and most eager NATO customer.

To say the least, it is repugnant to go into the vacillations, whims and pantomines used by some because they do not follow the principles they claim to maintain when, from the rhetoric and obsolete, they are compelled to move into confrontation in concrete events and situations in which the territorial integrity and sovereignty of a country is threatened, as Vietnam's is now, or when it is a case of taking sides between the reactionary forces and those of the revolution.

Under such circumstances, cowardice cannot be disguised as neutrality, or opportunism as high politics. In this regard, our party established its position in an unequivocal manner in the speech of its first secretary, Comrade Fidel Castro, last 26 July when he said: One cannot be neutral in the struggle of the Arab peoples for the recovery of the occupied territories and the recognition of the rights of the Palestinian people, between the African peoples and their neocolonizers, between Angola and its invaders, between the rights of the Western Sahara people and the occupiers of their territory, between the Ethiopian revolution and the Somali agressor, between the Yemeni revolution and the Arab reactionaries, between the progressive Arab countries and the reactionary Arab countries, between Vietnam and those threatening and attacking it, between the South African racists and the African people of South Africa, between the Zimbabwe patriotic front and Ian Smith, between Mozambique and the Rhodesian and South African racists, between Namibia and its colonialists, between the Cypriot people and the foreign occupiers, between the progressive and rightist forces of Lebanon, between the progressive and rightist forces of Lebanon, between Allende and Pinochet. One cannot be neutral in the face of issues such as Panama's sovereignty over the canal, the Belizean and Puerto Rican peoples' right to independence, the blockade of Cuba and the Yankee base in Guantanamo. One cannot be neutral in the face of imperialism, colonialism, neocolonialism, racism and fascism or in any of the many situations of political, economic and social struggle between the reactionary forces and the world's progressive forces, concluded Comrade Fidel.

It would be desirable and healthy for them if the leadership circles of imperialism, with the same perspicacity they used to recruit vacillators and traitors, opportunely become aware of the similarity of their policy of alliance designed to attack and pressure the Soviet Union, stimulating and arming a third country obssessed with expansion although seeking its own aims, and the efforts made to push Nazi Germany into a confrontation that would result in the annihilation of the Soviet Union; that is to say, socialism.

An elemental sense of responsibility advises not silencing this threat, most of all when history offers such an eloquent lesson of the holocaust that was caused by an error in judgment on the part of those who, thinking themselves to be safe, launched against the USSR a war machine in the hands of chauvinists blinded by expansion ambitions and dreams of world hegemony.

Comrades: Following the directives of the first congress, all efforts of our party and state will continue on the path designed to contribute, to the extent of their forces, to extending and making irreversible the process of international detente; to making prevail the principles of peaceful coexistence between states with different social systems; to the solution of principles by means of respect for the sovereign rights of peoples; and to the establishment of a new international economic order which restricts the imperialist plundering of underdeveloped countries and promotes economic, scientific, technical and cultural cooperation on mutually beneficial bases. Based on these principles, our country maintains diplomatic and commercial relations with various states whose political orientation does not coincide with or is substantially different from our positions regarding specific problems or in-depth issues of Cuba's foreign policy. This is a natural phenomenon within the community of nations and one of the basic premises for the maintenance of peace and improvement of the international situation.

Relations among states are based on mutual respect, noninterference in internal affairs and observance of international standards. During the 20 years that have passed since the triumph of the revolution, Cuba has demonstrated that its international conduct adheres to ethical policy principles, one of whose pillars is the truth in its public statements and the identity between these and the conduct of its policy. A similar policy apparently is incomprehensible for certain governments accustomed to imposing their conditions, although they formally appear to be within and even declare that they abide by the standards of the international community. It just happens to be the law of the jungle, just when mankind is approaching the last decades of the 20th century.

Such is the obvious case--despite all our expectations to the contrary--of the current North American Administration. There is a difference between the administration of Mr Carter and all those that preceded it. We have no interest in minimizing the realism that is reflected by certain positive steps that seemed to be following the sincere purpose of putting an end to almost 20 years of hostility. However, there are, at the same time, profound contradictions, incoherences and nonsense which leads to questioning the seriousness of the policy of the Carter administration regarding Cuba.

Suffice it to cite the unilateral declaration of the 200-mile economic zone which has meant a reduction of our traditional fishing zone; the absolutely false charge that Cuba was involved in the events in Shaba; the realization of an espionage flight throughout the length of the country by the sophisticated SR-71 airplane last 12 November; and, in connection with the grave violation of Cuba's airspace and sovereignty, the threat to create a grossly planned crisis under the pretext of the incorporation in our combat air force of a certain number of MiG-23 fighter-bombers, an event that took place almost a year earlier and which North American electronic equipment most certainly had detected and reserved such information in order to make it public for publicity and political pressure purposes.

Within the context of the so-called MiG-23 crisis, joint naval and air maneuvers between the United States and other countries were conducted near Cuba without any type of previous notification to Cuban authorities. To conclude this outline, I must draw attention to the intentions of some officials of the Carter administration to use the blockade as an instrument of pressure, an initiative which Comrade Fidel opportunely described as indecent.

On this 20th anniversary, it appears necessary to remind those who plan North American policy toward Cuba and the advisers of President Carter, very especially the principal one among them, Brzexinski, that Cuba neither rents itself, nor surrenders nor sells itself because, as Fidel said yesterday in his brilliant speech [prolonged applause] reiterating the policy of principles of our party and government, Cuba is not China; Cuba is not Egypt.

Comrades: In a few moments the forces and equipment participating in the "20th Anniversary of the Revolution" military parade will parade before you. The parade is a representative demonstration of the current level of our Revolutionary Armed Forces, so far as type of weapons and technical combat equipment are concerned. The results attained manifest the concern of our party and government for, and the personal dedication of Comrade Fidel to, our armed forces--combat, operational and political training of personnel; living conditions; and material study base for the constant improvement of the troops. In our times, the FAR are the fruit of the unselfish work of commanders and officers and of political, party and Union of Young Communists organizations; and, very especially, they are the fruit of the cooperation, technical assistance, solidarity and fraternal aid of the Soviet party, government, armed forces and people exemplarily represented among us by the Soviet military specialists. [applause]

If it rains today as it did on that 2 January 1976, we stay here. [applause] And if, because of weather conditions, the airplanes cannot fly by, it does not matter because all the people of Havana have seen them during practices, [applause] and the rest of the "20th Anniversary of the Triumph of the Revolution" parade can still pass in review. Is that not so, officers and soldiers? [shouts] [applause]

Everything can be summarized, and it constitutes our maximum satisfaction, in the political, ideological and moral qualities of the cadres and combatants; in their high preparedness for modern combat, sudden changes of the stiuation, and the enemy's employment of any of its equipment. Twenty years after the triumph of our revolution we can say to our commander in chief that the socialist fatherland has in the FAR the armed branch of the working class in power and a shield on which this thought of Jose Marti, who defined the will of all our people, can be written: Before giving up the effort to make the homeland free and prosperous, the south sea will join the north sea and a serpent will be born out of the egg of an eagle. [applause]

Long live Marxism-Leninism. [shouts of 'Viva,' applause] Long live the 20th anniversary of the triumph of the revolution. [shouts of 'Viva,' applause] Long live Fidel. [shouts of 'Viva,' applause] Fatherland or death; we will win. [shouts of 'Venceremos,' applause]

ROMANOV TO HEAD USSR DELEGATION TO ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

FL292743Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 29 Dec 78 FL

[Text] Moscow--CPSU Politburo member Grigoriy Romanov left for Cuba today to attend commemorative activities for the 20th anniversary of the triumph of the revolution. Romanov, who is also first secretary of the Leningrad CPSU Committee, is accompanied by Council of Nationalities Chairman Vitaliy Ruben and USSR Ambassador to Cuba Nikita Tolubeyev.

SOVIET DEPUTY DEFENSE MINISTER ARRIVES FOR FESTIVITIES

Met by Raul Castro

FL291114Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 29 Dec 78 FL

[Text] Army Gen Raul Castro, second secretary of the party and minister of the Revolutionary Armed Forces, has received at Jose Marti International Airport Soviet Marshal Sergey Sokolov, first deputy defense minister of the USSR, who is making an official visit to Cuba. Later, the delegation went to El Cacahual where, after the playing of the Cuban and Soviet national anthems, Sokolov laid a floral wreath at the mausoleum which contains the remains of liberation army Lt Gen Antonio Maceo and Capt Francisco Gomez Toro. Near the map which shows the principal actions performed by the titan of bronze [Maceo], Sokolov was briefed on the most outstanding political and military events in Maceo's life, the protest of Baragua and the invasion of the West.

Lays Wreath at Marti Monument

FL291954Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1903 GMT 29 Dec 78 FL

[Text] Soviet Marshal Sergey Sokolov, first deputy defense minister of the USSR, today laid a floral wreath at the foot of the Jose Marti monument at this capital's Plaza de la Revolucion. Accompanying the Soviet marshal were Brig Gen Sixto Batista, member of the PCC Central Committee and vice minister-chief of the Revolutionary Armed Forces [FAR] Political Directorate; and Div Gen Grancisco Cabrera, alternate member of the PCC Central Committee and vice minister-chief of the Antiaircraft Defense and Revolutionary Air Force. Others in the group were Lt Gen Krivoplyasov, chief of Soviet specialists working in Cuba; Col Guivi P. Ordzhonikidze, military, naval and air attache of the Soviet Embassy; other officials of that diplomatic mission; and high-ranking FAR officers.

Sokolov arrived in our country yesterday on an official visit at the invitation of army Gen Raul Castro, second secretary of the PCC and FAR minister.

NUMEROUS DELEGATIONS ARRIVE FOR ANNIVERSARY EVENTS

FL011513Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1417 GMT 1 Jan 79 FL

[Text] Numerous groups of Latin American delegations invited to the events marking the 20th anniversary of the triumph of the revolution have arrived in Havana. Among those visitors are Jorge del Prado, secretary general of Peru's Communist Party; and his counterparts Jesus Parias from Venezuela and Rigoberto Padilla from Honduras. Also arriving in Havana were Jorge Shafik Handal, first secretary of the Salvadoran Communist Party; Leonidas Rodriguez, president of Peru's Socialist Revolutionary Party; and Victor Granda, member of the Ecuadorian Revolutionary Socialist Party national directorate. The guests were received at the Jose Marti International Airport by Cuban leaders headed by PCC Politburo member Osvaldo Dorticos and PCC Secretariat member Antonio Perez Herrero.

Luis Carlos Prestes, secretary general of the Brazilian Communist Party; and Luis Mattini, secretary general of Argentina's Workers' Revolutionary Party, have also arrived in Cuba to participate in the festivities marking the 20th anniversary. Also arriving in Havana were (Bossie Rankaran), second secretary of the Guyanese People's Progressive Party; Carlos Romero, executive member of the Colombian Communist Party; and a Colombian governmental delegation headed by Eduardo (Auchaide Ochoa).

Invited to the events marking the 20th anniversary, a delegation of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen headed by Defense Minister (Ali be-Tantar), [as heard] alternate member of the Yemeni Socialist Party Politburo, has also arrived in our country. The members of the Yemeni delegation were met at the air terminal by Div Gen Senen Casas Regueiro and Manuel Diaz, both members of the PCC Central Committee.

HUNGARIAN, OTHER DELEGATIONS ARRIVE IN HAVANA

FL291911Y Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 29 Dec 78 FL

[Text] Many delegations have arrived in our country to participate in commemorative activities for the 20th anniversary of the revolution.

Bela Biszku, member of the Politburo of the Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party, arrived last night from the Hungarian People's Republic, heading that country's delegation which includes the labor minister, the deputy defense minister, the vice president of the National Assembly and the Hungarian ambassador to Cuba. The Hungarian delegation was received at Jose Marti International Airport by PCC Central Committee Politburo member Osvaldo Dorticos Torrado and Jose Ramon Fernandez, member of the Central Committee and vice president of the Council of Ministers.

The U.S. Communist Party delegation headed by party president (Henry Winston); and (Lennox Hans), president of the National Conference of Black Lawyers, also arrived last night. The delegation, which was invited by our party, was received at the capital's airport by PCC Politburo member Guillermo Garcia; Luis Mendez Morejon, vice president of the People's Government Provincial Assembly in Havana City; and Miguel Angel Duque de Estrada, president of the National Association of Cuban Jurists.

The People's Republic of Bulgaria delegation arrived this morning headed by Bulgarian Communist Party Politburo member Tano Tsolov. The delegation includes (Ninko Stefanov), deputy chairman of the National Assembly and member of the party Central Committee; and Bulgarian Ambassador to Cuba Boyko Dimitrov. They were received by PCC Politburo member Arnaldo Milian, Council of Ministers Vice President Flavio Bravo and Cuban-Bulgarian Friendship Association President Mario Oliva, all of them members of the PCC Central Committee.

The Republic of Iraq delegation also has arrived headed by Muhyi 'Abd al-Husayn, member of the Ba'th Party national directorate and of the Revolution Command Council. The Iraqi delegation was received by Levi Farah Balmaseda, minister-president of the State Committee for Construction.

MILITARY DELEGATIONS TO ANNIVERSARY FESTIVITIES

FL291224Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1145 GMT 29 Dec 78 FL

[Text] Military delegations that have arrived to attend the commemoration of the 20th anniversary of the triumph of the revolution include those of Guinea, headed by [Defense Minister] Alafay Kououma; and Mexico's Secretariat of National Defense, headed by Brig Gen Salvador Lopez Matamoros. Others that have arrived include delegations of Peru, headed by army Col (Equer Quister Janson); Guyana, headed by Lt Col (K. Bernam Morgan); Madagascar, headed by Col Paul Bersino); and Cape Verde, headed by Maj (Timoteo Tabares).

SEVEN CHIEFS OF STATE HOLD 'MINISUMMIT' IN JAMAICA

Prime Minister Manley Comments

FL291123Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 29 Dec 78 FL

[Text] Prime Minister Michael Manley has declared that the first session of the minisummit which opened in Jamaica yesterday with the participation of seven chiefs of government was frank, cordial and useful.

The Jamaican prime minister held a news conference at the end of the first day of talks which dealt with establishment of a common fund, the current world economic situation and the sectors that are obstructing economic growth. Manley indicated that the aspects most affecting economic expansion of underdeveloped countries and the inequality in international trade relations which affects products of underdeveloped nations were discussed. The Jamaican chief of state insisted that the minisummit is not of a negotiating nature, and it is only a meeting designed to achieve greater understanding in order to make decisions to eliminate the poverty, underdevelopment and inequalities that currently exist.

The chiefs of government of the Federal Republic of Germany, Canada, Norway, Nigeria, Australia, Venezuela and Jamaica are participating in the Jamaica minisummit, which ends today.

Third World Problems Examined

FL291546Y Kingston Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 29 Dec 78 FL

[Text] The minisummit of seven world leaders in Runaway Bay is now in its second and final day . Today, the leaders will examine steps to achieve better international understanding of Third World problems. No final communique will be issued at the end of the day, but each of the seven heads of government is expected to issue a separate statement.

Yesterday, Prime Minister Manley described the talks so far as extremely useful, and he said they were marked by a great degree of purposefulness and cordiality. Mr Manley said the first day had been devoted to a general discussion of global economic problems, including the effect of the 14.5-percent price increase announced for next year by the oil exporting nations. The leaders also examined ways of solving the deadlock in the 3-year-old north-south dialog designed to create a new economic order.